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PRESS CONFERENCE HELD TO DISCUSS GORBACHEV PROPOSAL

PM201600 Moscow PRAVDA IN Russian 19 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Press Conference in Moscow"]

[Text] A press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held in Moscow on 18 January in connection with the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on questions of the limitation of the arms race and disarmament. It was given by G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, USSR first deputy defense minister and chief of the Armed Forces General Staff; and L.M. Zamyatin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Section.

Opening the press conference, L.M. Zamyatin said:

[Uppercase passages in the following item were not published in this PRAVDA, item but were carried in a Moscow TASS in English report on Zamyatin's statement at 1934 GMT on 18 Jan.]

The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, outlined a concrete and detailed plan of purposeful actions to remove the most serious threat now hanging over mankind -- the danger of nuclear war.

The program of totally liquidating nuclear arms in the entire world during the next 15 years is the core of the new large-scale set of Soviet peace initiatives. THE SOVIET UNION HAS PROPOSED TO IMPLEMENT AND CONCLUDE THE PROCESS OF RIDDING THE EARTH OF NUCLEAR ARMS BY THE END OF THE PRESENT CENTURY.

THE PROGRAMME PROPOSED BY THE SOVIET UNION PROVIDES FOR A STAGE-BY-STAGE REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR ARMS -- BOTH DELIVERY VEHICLES AND MUNITIONS -- RIGHT TO THEIR TOTAL LIQUIDATION UNDER APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL IN CONDITIONS OF A BAN ON THE DEVELOPMENT, TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF SPACE STRIKE ARMS. The concrete proposals outlined in the statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee open a realistic road to ensuring a fundamental breakthrough in the international arena. The Soviet initiative outlines clear-cut routes and reference points, suggests a concrete time frame for reaching accords and fulfilling them, and is capable of making the talks on these matters pusposeful and goal-oriented.

The Soviet proposals to fully liquidate nuclear arms are addressed, first of all, to the United States. It is precisely the Soviet Union and the United States that should set an example for other nuclear powers at the first stage of nuclear disarmament and already at this stage, in the course of 5-8 years should reduce nuclear arms reaching each other's territory by one-half, liquidate Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe as the first step toward ridding the European Continent of nuclear arms, and stop all nuclear explosions. This initiative by the Soviet leadership fully accords with the Geneva agreement between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan. At the same time, the Soviet proposals also presuppose the inclusion of all other nuclear powers in this process at its subsequent stages. SINCE THE POINT IN QUESTION IS A PROBLEM OF IMPORTANCE TO THE WHOLE OF MANKIND THAT CAN AND MUST BE SOLVED ONLY JOINTLY.

A ban on the deployment of strike weapons in outer space should become a natural and logical precondition to the liquidation of nuclear arms. To prevent the arms race from spreading to outer space means to remove the barrier to profound reductions of nuclear arms.

IT IS A PEACEFUL OUTER SPACE AND NOT "STAR WARS" THAT IS THE ONLY REAL ROAD TO MAKING NUCLEAR ARMS UNNECESSARY TO REDUCING THEM TO ZERO.

The blocking of all channels toward perfecting nuclear arms, of the possibilities to create [sozdaniye] ever more sophisticated and lethal varieties of these arms is an inalienable part of the process of reducing and liquidating nuclear arms. Guiding itself by this approach and as a manifestation of goodwill, the Soviet Union has decided to prolong by three months the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear blasts announced by it in August 1985. The Soviet Union again offers the United States the opportunity to join this most important and constructive Soviet step.

The program of nuclear disarmament also provides for a ban on the development [sozdaniye] of non-nuclear arms based on new physical principles, which by their destructive power approach weapons of mass annihilation.

The Soviet Union proposes removing chemical weapons from the arsenals of states during the next few years. It comes out for destroying their stockpiles and for the speediest liquidation of the actual industrial base for the manufacture of these weapons under strict control, including international on-site verification.

We propose to put the entire existing system of negotiations into action to implement the program of reducing and liquidating nuclear arms, averting an arms race in outer space, banning chemical weapons, reducing armed forces and conventional armaments, and strengthening confidence-building measures. These are the talks in Geneva, Vienna, and Stockholm.

Mikhail Gorbachev's statement is widely supported by the world public and has evoked considerable interest among political circles and statesmen in various countries.

The Soviet people actively and ardently support the position of the CPSU and the Soviet Government. MIKHAIL GORBACHEV'S STATEMENT IS A TOPICAL AND SCOPEFUL DOCUMENT. IT SHOWS THAT SUCH FAR-REACHING PROPOSALS ON THE TOTAL LIQUIDATION OF NUCLEAR ARMS COULD BE WORKED OUT AND SUBMITTED ONLY BY A STATE THAT IS FIRMLY RESOLVED TO PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR. THIS LINE IS DETERMINED BY OUR SOCIAL SYSTEM, OUR MORALS AND WORLD OUTLOOK. OUR PARTY IS NOW ADVANCING TOWARDS ITS 27TH CONGRESS FIRMLY HOLDING THE INITIATIVE IN MATTERS OF PRESERVING PEACE ON EARTH.

It is hoped in the Soviet Union that the new far-reaching Soviet initiatives will be assessed abroad on merit, first of all in the leading circles of the United States and other Western powers. A POSITIVE RESPONSE OF THE WEST TO THE SOVIET PROPOSALS WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE, AT LONG LAST, TO MOVE OFF DEAD CENTRE THE PROCESS OF SOLVING THE MOST URGENT AND PRESSING PROBLEM OF OUR TIME -- THAT OF REMOVING THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR WAR, OF LIMITING AND STOPPING THE PROCESS OF MANUFACTURING AND STOCKPILING LETHAL WEAPONS OF THE MASS ANNIHILATION OF PEOPLE.

The participants in the press conference then answered numerous questions from correspondents: [Uppercase passages in the following paragraphs were not published in this PRAVDA report, but were carried in a Moscow TASS International Service in Russian report on the question and answer portion of the press conference at 1558 GMT on 18 Jan.]

Question: It is well-known that the Soviet Union has come out before in favor of a radical reduction in, and the ultimate complete liquidation of all nuclear weapons. Could you please go into detail about how the current Soviet proposals differ from the previous ones in this regard?

Answer: The banning and ultimate complete liquidation of nuclear weapons has in fact always been the aim of Soviet foreign policy.

Now, however, the Soviet Union has put forward a concrete program for achieving this noble and great aim, not some time in the vague, remote future, but within an historically brief period of time -- just 15 years -- on the condition, of course, that space strike weapons are also banned. It is in this -- its concrete nature -- that the fundamental novelty and significance of our initiative lies.

Question: Does the new Soviet initiative envisage that both nuclear weapon carriers and the nuclear charges for them will be destroyed? How will this be carried out in practice?

Answer: According to the Soviet program, both nuclear weapon carriers and the nuclear charges for them must be subject to destruction. First and foremost, this goes for strategic and medium-range means. Certain tactical nuclear weapons carriers, such as those with a range of less than 1,000 km, could be made subject to reequipping so they would be unable to fulfill the function of nuclear weapons carriers. How could this be carried out in practice? What would probably be required is the development [razrabotka] of sophisticated special procedures for destroying nuclear ammunition and for the dismantling, reequipping, or destruction of the carriers. At all stages in the elimination of nuclear weapons, the amount of weapons to be destroyed and the locations where they would be destroyed must be agreed on. There must, of course, be reliable monitoring, including international monitoring, of the destruction or reequipping of weapons.

Question: In the statement made by U.S. President Reagan on the day that the new round of negotiations began in Geneva, there is no mention of space weapons. This gives rise to the question of whether the Soviet-U.S. accord achieved in Geneva on the interlinked resolution of questions pertaining to nuclear and space weapons is still in force.

Answer: We firmly proceed from that. M.S. Gorbachev's statement makes it absolutely clear that the reduction and subsequent liquidation of nuclear weapons are possible only if the Soviet Union and the United States both repudiate the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment [razvertyvaniye] of space-based strike weapons. This is no arbitrary linking of two different questions. No, it is a matter of their objective, organic, and material interconnection, which cannot be separated.

Question: A number of speeches made by U.S. leaders say that, in recent years, the United States has repeatedly called for the world to be free of nuclear weapons. What is more, referring back to relevant presidential statements made in 1981 and 1983, they claim the Soviet Union's new initiative does not change anything.

Answer: True enough. Such pronouncements have been made by White House representatives at different levels. The point must be made, however, that the U.S. presidential statements in question were made in a general way and contained nothing concrete, certainly no plan or program. They were just wishes. Now, however, the Soviet Union is proposing a concrete plan of action.

WE PROCEED FROM THE VIEW THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO ADOPT PRACTICAL MEASURES AIMED AT COMPLETELY AND UNIVERSALLY LIQUIDATING NUCLEAR WEAPONS DURING THE NEXT 15 YEARS.

Question: As is known, the main obstacle in the way of an accord in Vienna is the problem of monitoring. What kind of monitoring, specifically over a troop and arms reduction as well as a nonincrease in their levels, does the Soviet Union envisage?

Answer: In the program the Soviet Union has currently set out, it states perfectly clearly that it favors effective monitoring in all fields of the reduction and limitation of armaments and of disarmament.

At the same time, monitoring must be in accordance with the extent and nature of the commitments undertaken by the countries.

At the Vienna talks, the Soviet Union envisages adequate measures of monitoring both on troop and arms reductions and on a nonincrease in the levels of armed forces. Apart from national technical means of control, we also envisage such measures as an exchange of lists of troop units that are to be reduced, mutual notification about the beginning and the completion of the reduction, and the creation by each side -- for the period of the withdrawal -- of three to four points for observation of the troop withdrawal. We believe these measures ensure reliable monitoring of the fulfillment of the agreement.

The program also envisages the establishment on a permanent basis of operational points for monitoring the entry into (withdrawal from) the reduction zone of troop contingents.

Question: How does the new Soviet proposal for a stage-by-stage liquidation of nuclear weapons harmonize with the Soviet side's position on the Geneva talks, in particular with the proposal on the 50-percent reduction of nuclear armaments?

Answer: The program we have proposed for the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons on the condition of a similar, complete ban on space strike armaments has been formulated in such a way that all that we proposed at the Geneva talks is organically written into it. This also applies to the 50-percent reduction in Soviet and U.S. nuclear armaments which can reach each other's territory. Such a reduction would take place during the first and partly during the second stage of the implementation of the program.

Question: M.S. Gorbachev's proposal talks about eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe in the first stage, while British and French missiles remain in place until the second stage. Is this not a change in the previous Soviet stance or a movement of this stance closer to Ronald Reagan's zero option proposal?

Answer: First, the Soviet proposal has nothing in common with Reagan's "zero option." On the one hand, the "zero," according to Reagan, envisaged that the Soviet Union would be obliged to destroy its medium-range missiles not only in the European zone but also in the east of the country; while, on the other hand, it did not rule out either the United States being able to transfer such missiles to its allies or Britain and France being able to build up their own corresponding nuclear arms. As you can see, this is not at all what we are proposing.

Second, the new Soviet proposal on medium-range missiles is, of course, a big and bold step on the path to freeing the European Continent of nuclear arms. NOW, WHEN THE SOVIET UNION HAS EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO ELIMINATE ALL OF ITS MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES HERE ON THE CONDITION THAT THE UNITED STATES ELIMINATE SIMILAR MISSILES, EVEN THE EUROPEANS WHO WERE INTIMIDATED BY THE SOVIET SS-20 MISSILES WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE THEIR OWN WEIGHTY SAY AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THEY WANT TO HAVE U.S. MISSILES IN THEIR HOME.

Question: President R. Reagan said that M.S. Gorbachev's proposal is constructive and one might think that one the whole, U.S. reaction to it is warm. Why then are you appraising the U.S. standpoint negatively with regard to the Soviet initiatives?

Answer: We are not appraising U.S. reaction completely negatively. We are only saying that, together with the statements welcoming the Soviet initiatives, particular sections are immediately putting forward problems that to all intents and purposes act as a brake in the practical solution of the issues we have posed.

Take, for instance, the statement that was just made by C. Weinberger, the U.S. defense secretary, to the effect that there will be no changes in the U.S. position regarding the SDI program. Weinberger also claimed that the Soviet proposal for a moratorium on nuclear explosions is unacceptable to the U.S. side because at this stage, the Soviet Union has allegedly carried out more explosions than the United States. This is, however, simply incorrect. For instance, according to data of the Stockholm Institute of Peace Problems, by the beginning of 1985 the United States had carried out 772 nuclear explosions, while the Soviet Union had carried out 556. During the Soviet moratorium, the gap in favor of the U.S. increased still further.

Question: What are the conditions and time scale for joining the program and process of nuclear disarmament by the remaining nuclear states?

Answer: As is known, leaders of Great Britain, France, and China have repeatedly declared that these countries will be ready to join the process of nuclear disarmament when the Soviet Union and the United States substantially reduce their nuclear arsenals.

Taking this into account, we propose these countries begin reducing their nuclear armaments in the second stage, after the Soviet Union and the United States have reduced -- not simply significantly, but by a factor of two -- their strategic and other nuclear weapons capable of reaching each other's territory. Additionally, according to our proposal, reduction of the nuclear arsenals of these countries would start with the destruction of tactical weapons; those nuclear armaments, which they themselves call strategic, would be destroyed only in the third stage, simultaneously with the completion of the elimination of the Soviet and U.S. nuclear arsenals.

On the whole, our program has been drawn up so that its implementation would not even inflict damage to anyone's security in any single stage. EVERYTHING IN IT IS BALANCED.

QUESTION: U.S. PRESS AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE IN ITS 13 JANUARY ISSUE REPORTED THAT THE WEAPONS BEING DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SDI PROGRAM ARE ALSO INTENDED FOR USE AS OFFENSIVE WEAPONS. COULD YOU COMMENT ON THESE REPORTS?

ANSWER: TRUE. FOR EXAMPLE, SUCH WEAPONS AS THE LASER WEAPON IN SPACE COULD DESTROY NOT ONLY ENEMY WARHEADS, BUT GROUND-BASED OBJECTS AND EVEN ENTIRE CITIES.

WE ARE AGAINST THE DEPLOYMENT OF STRIKE WEAPONS, INCLUDING LASER ONES, IN SPACE. WHAT THEY CALL THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE IS, IN FACT, THE DEPLOYMENT OF STRIKE WEAPONS IN SPACE. THAT IS PRECISELY WHY THE INITIAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ON BANNING SPACE STRIKE WEAPONS SHOULD BECOME, AT THE SECOND STAGE OF THE NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT PROGRAM, A MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL LEADING INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES.

Question: How, specifically, is the question of the elimination of the medium-range missiles dealt with in the three-stage Soviet program?

Answer: The program very specifically deals with freeing Europe from nuclear weapons. As a first, radical step in this direction we propose to eliminate, as early as the first stage, all Soviet and U.S. ballistic and cruise medium-range missiles in the European zone. This will be possible if the United States commits itself to not supply its medium-range strategic missiles to other countries and Britain and France to not build up the corresponding nuclear weapons.

Question: What did M.S. Gorbachev have in mind when he spoke of non-nuclear weapons, based upon new physical principles, which come close to nuclear weapons in their destructive capabilities? Has the Soviet Union carried out development [razrabotka] and testing of weapons of this kind to a degree necessary for their deployment?

Answer: Weapons based on new physical principles would include, among others, means using physical principles never before used to hit personnel, military equipment, and targets. Among weapons of this kind, one might include ray, radio wave, infrasonic [infrazvukovoy], geophysical, and genetic weapons. In their strike characteristics, these types of weapons might be no less dangerous than mass strike weapons.

The Soviet Union considers it necessary to establish a ban on the development [sozdaniye] of armaments of this kind. The Soviet Union has not carried out, nor does it intend to carry out, either tests of such armaments, or -- even less so -- the deployment of them. It will seek to ensure that all other countries also do not do so.

Question: I would like you to say something about new elements in the Soviet stance on banning chemical weapons. What, in your opinion, is hindering the completion of the elaboration of an international convention on the banning of chemical weapons?

Answer: The Soviet Union favors a very speedy and complete liquidation of chemical weapons and the industrial basis of their manufacture. We are prepared to come to an agreement concerning the timely announcement of the location of plants producing chemical weapons, the halt of chemical weapons production, and the start of liquidating chemical weapons stocks soon after the convention goes into effect. All of this and the destruction of the industrial basis should be carried out under strict control, including international on-site checks. OUR PROPOSAL ON THE NONTRANSFER OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS TO ANYONE AND THE NONSITING OF THEM IN OTHER STATES' TERRITORY IS ALSO KNOWN TO YOU.

IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE PROPOSING TO GENUINELY CONCERN OURSELVES WITH PRECISELY THOSE PROBLEMS ON WHICH PROGRESS AT THE TALKS ON BANNING CHEMICAL WEAPONS DEPENDS.

The elaboration of a convention has been at a standstill first and foremost, in view of the absence of political will from the United States and its NATO allies. [TO GO FOR A RADICAL SOLUTION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS PROBLEM -- A FULL BAN ON THEM AND THE DESTRUCTION OF STOCKS AND THE VERY BASE OF THEIR PRODUCTION.

This is borne out both by their stance on this issue at the Geneva disarmament conference and by the fact that the United States, since a new administration came to power in 1980, has in general broken off bilateral talks with the USSR. THAT WERE BEING CONDUCTED PREVIOUSLY, AND UNSUCCESSFULLY, WITH THE AIM OF FINDING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS ON KEY PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION.

ONE WOULD LIKE TO HOPE THAT SINCE THE SIDES AGREED DURING THE SOVIET-U.S. SUMMIT MEETING IN GENEVA TO STEP UP EFFORTS ON THE CONCLUSION OF AN EFFECTIVE AND VERIFIABLE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE BANNING AND DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, THE UNITED STATES WILL CORRESPONDINGLY ADJUST ITS STANCE. THE SOVIET UNION WILL NOT BE FOUND WANTING.

QUESTION: THIS IS A SOMEWHAT FUTURISTIC QUESTION. WHAT SORT OF PICTURE DOES THE SOVIET UNION HAVE OF THE WORLD [or peace -- Russian is "mir"] IN THE 21ST CENTURY IN THE EVENT THE PROPOSED PROGRAM IS PUT INTO PRACTICE?

ANSWER: THIS IS A QUESTION BOTH FUTURISTIC AND REALISTIC. THE ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WOULD YIELD AN ENORMOUS ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE TO ALL STATES OF THE WORLD. FIRST AND FOREMOST, THE DEBT NOOSE OF TRILLIONS WHICH IS STRANGLING TENS OF COUNTRIES AND WHOLE CONTINENTS WILL BE REMOVED. ENORMOUS SUMS COULD BE TRANSFERRED INTO SOLVING SOCIAL QUESTIONS AND THE MANY COMMON HUMAN PROBLEMS: ELIMINATING HUNGER AND DISEASE AND CONSERVING THE ENVIRONMENT.

WE HOPE THAT IN THE THIRD MILLENIUM THE WORLD WILL LIVE WITHOUT WEAPONS AND WITHOUT WARS SO THAT MANKIND CAN DEVOTE ITSELF TO CREATIVE LABOR.

QUESTION: IN THE WEST THEY ARE OF THE OPINION THAT LAND FORCES REPRESENT A THREAT TO EUROPEAN SECURITY. SHOULD THERE BE ANY DISCUSSION AT ALL AT THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE ABOUT GIVING NOTIFICATION OF AIR FORCE AND NAVAL EXERCISES?

ANSWER: IT WOULD BE WRONG TO SAY THAT, BECAUSE IT IS NOT ONLY LAND FORCES THAT TAKE PART IN MILITARY ACTIVITY, BUT ALSO OTHER TYPES OF ARMED FORCES AND BRANCHES OF FORCES. HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE AND THE EXPERIENCE OF MODERN WARS AND CONFLICTS GRAPHICALLY SHOW THE GREAT AND OFTEN DECISIVE IMPORTANCE THAT THE AIR FORCE AND NAVY HAVE HAD IN COMBAT ACTION AND THE GREAT DAMAGE THEY HAVE DONE USING EVEN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS.

TAKING THIS INTO ACCOUNT, IT IS ILLOGICAL AND UNJUSTIFIABLE TO SINGLE OUT JUST ONE TYPE, FOR EXAMPLE LAND FORCES, AT THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE OUT OF THE ENTIRE BROAD SPECTRUM OF MILITARY ACTIVITY BY ARMED FORCES THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANDATE OF THE CONFERENCE, IS TO BE COVERED BY CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES. THE ACTIVITY OF THE AIR FORCE AND NAVY MUST THEREFORE, OF COURSE, FROM A CERTAIN LEVEL UPWARDS, BE COVERED BY SUCH NOTIFICATION MEASURES.

Question: Nevertheless, the question over your SS-20 missiles is not quite clear. In the opinion of NATO, there is no difference between the missiles deployed in Europe and those deployed in Asia because of their mobility. What could you say on this question?

Answer: That question is not a new one. We have already said that the SS-20 missiles have been deployed in Europe because the NATO countries have corresponding medium-range nuclear means that represent a threat to the security of the Soviet Union. As far as the SS-20 missiles in the east of our country are concerned, they are deployed there primarily because the United States has its own nuclear means in that region that are capable of reaching the territory of the Soviet Union. These include carrier-based aircraft and nuclear-capable aircraft based in Misawa on Hokkaido Island.

Now let us consider the mobility of the missiles. White House Deputy Press Secretary Speakes has said, you see, that, even if the SS-20 missiles in Europe are destroyed, it makes no difference, because only a few weeks are needed to transfer the missiles from the east. First, however, they are not in the east in order to be shifted backward and forward. Second, one can put to Speakes the question: How long does it take to transfer Pershing missiles from the United States to Europe? AND THAT IS NOT A THEORETICAL QUESTION... [TASS ellipsis]

BY THE WAY, ON THE SUBJECT OF PERSHING MISSILES, ALTHOUGH 108 LAUNCHERS ARE SITED IN EUROPE, THREE TIMES AS MANY OF THE ACTUAL MISSILES HAVE BEEN ORDERED AND FAR MORE HAVE ALREADY BEEN MANUFACTURED THAN ARE SITED IN EUROPE. FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, THEN, IT IS LEGITIMATE TO ASK IF, IN FACT, WE CAN DESTROY THE MISSILES IN THE EUROPEAN PART, SINCE ADDITIONAL MISSILES MAY BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE UNITED STATES -- AND IN ONLY A FEW DAYS.

Several excuses of all kinds can be found if you do not want to solve a problem. Under the pretense of the so-called global approach to medium-range missiles, the United States would simply like to prevent any accord. Our program, however, also solves the problem of the medium-range missiles, including those in the east. In 15 years, there would be no missiles at all.

Question: IT IS KNOWN THAT ALL PREVIOUS ARMS LIMITATION TALKS HAVE BEEN PROLONGED. In this connection, do you believe implementation of a program to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2000 is realistic?

Answer: THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP FULLY APPRECIATES THE DIFFICULTY OF THE TASK OF SEEKING THE SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS REQUIRED TO COMPLETELY FREE THE WORLD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HOWEVER, THEY ALSO FULLY REALIZE THAT THE SITUATION TAKING SHAPE IN THE WORLD, OR -- IF YOU WILL -- HISTORY, GRANTS ALL OF US AN EXTREMELY SHORT TIME IN WHICH TO FIND SUCH SOLUTIONS. IT HAS ALREADY BEEN STRESSED SEVERAL TIMES -- AND M.S. GORBACHEV HAS SPOKEN OF THIS MORE THAN ONCE, INCLUDING IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH R. REAGAN -- THAT THE PRESENT WORLD SITUATION IS TOO COMPLEX AND TOO DANGEROUS FOR ANY DELAY TO BE PERMITTED IN RESOLVING PROBLEMS UPON WHICH MANKIND'S SURVIVAL DEPENDS; TOMORROW THE SITUATION MAY BECOME EVEN MORE COMPLEX AND DANGEROUS. The answer to your question is this: Yes, we believe the world can be rid of the threat of nuclear disaster; the world can be rid of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. For this, all those upon whom the resolution of the problems indicated depends must demonstrate an understanding of the responsibility they bear and show the political will. AND READINESS TO EMBARK WITHOUT DELAY ON THE QUEST FOR PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO QUESTIONS OF NUCLEAR, SPACE, AND OTHER ARMAMENTS.

Replies were also given to other questions.

Vremya' Coverage

LD190030 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1525 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Press conference held in Moscow 18 January for Soviet and foreign journalists in connection with the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on questions of limiting the arms race and disarmament. Participating in the conference are Comrade Korniyenko, first deputy USSR foreign minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces and first deputy USSR defense minister; and Comrade Zamyatin, chief of the International Information Department of the CPSU Central Committee -- recorded]

[Text] [Zamyatin] The statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, outlines a concrete and detained plan of purposeful actions to completely eliminate the most serious threat now hanging over mankind -- the danger of nuclear war.

The program of totally liquidating nuclear weapons throughout the entire world during the coming 15 years is the core of the new large-scale set of Soviet peace initiatives. The Soviet Union has proposed implementing and concluding the process of ridding the earth of nuclear weapons by the end of the present century.

The program proposed by the Soviet Union provides for a stage-by-stage reduction of nuclear weapons -- both delivery vehicles and warheads -- right up to their total liquidation under appropriate international control and with an accord banning the development, testing, and deployment of space strike arms.

The concrete proposals set out in the statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee open a realistic road to ensuring a fundamental breakthrough in the international arena.

We have tried on this diagram here, [diagram follows report] as far as we have been able, to present the graphic stages in the reduction of nuclear armaments and the contents of each stage; therefore, in our replies to questions we ask you to bear this diagram, which we have before us here, in mind.

Now, allow us to answer your questions.

[Kalyagin] Kalyagin, Central Television. My question is for Comrade Korniyenko.

It is well known that the Soviet Union came out earlier in favor of a radical reduction in, and ultimately, the complete liquidation of, all nuclear weapons. Could you please go into detail about how the current Soviet proposals differ from the previous ones in this regard?

[Korniyenko] The banning and ultimately, the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons, in fact, has always been the aim of Soviet foreign policy. Now, however, the Soviet Union has put forward a concrete program, worked out in detail, for achieving this noble and truly great aim and not some time in the vague future, but within a historically brief period of time -- just 15 years -- on the condition, of course, that space strike weapons are also banned. It is in this -- its concrete nature -- that the fundamental novelty and significance of our initiative lies.

[Zamyatin] A question for Comrade Akhromeyev. Does the new Soviet initiative envisage that both nuclear weapon carriers and the nuclear charges for them will be eliminated? How will this be carried out in practice?

[Akhromeyev] In accordance with the Soviet program, both nuclear weapon carriers and the nuclear charges for them are to be eliminated. First and foremost, this goes for strategic and medium-range systems. Here, apparently, no exceptions should be permitted. Certain tactical nuclear weapons carriers, that is, with a range of less than 1,000 km, could be made subject to reequipping so that they would be unable to fulfill the function of nuclear weapon carriers. How could this be carried out in practice? What would be required is the development probably of sophisticated special procedures for eliminating nuclear munitions and the dismantling, reequipping, or elimination of the carriers. At all stages in the elimination of nuclear weapons, the amount of weapons to be destroyed and the locations where they will be destroyed must be agreed. The program envisages that there must, of course, be reliable monitoring, including international monitoring, of the destruction or reequipping of weapons.

[Zamyatin] A question for Comrade Korniyenko. It is put by (Keith Clarke), MORNING STAR correspondent. Can it be considered that the accord achieved in November in Geneva on the interlinked resolution of questions pertaining to nuclear and space weapons is still in force?

[Korniyenko] We firmly proceed from that. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement makes it absolutely clear that the reduction and subsequent liquidation of nuclear weapons are possible only if the Soviet Union and the United States both repudiate the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment [razvertyvaniye] of space-based strike weapons. This is no arbitrary linking of two different questions. No, it is a matter of their objective, organic, and material interconnection which cannot be sundered by anyone or anything. That is our reply to that question.

[Zamyatin] TASS correspondent Velikhov asks: A number of speeches made by U.S. leaders say that in recent years the United States has repeatedly called for the world to be freed from nuclear weapons. What is more, referring back to relevant presidential statements made in 1981 and 1983, they claim the Soviet Union's new initiative does not change anything. True enough. Such pronouncements are made by White House representatives at different levels. The point must be made, however, that the U.S. presidential statements in question were made in a general way and contained nothing concrete and certainly, no plan or program. They were just wishes. But now the Soviet Union is proposing a concrete plan of action.

In this connection, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that when statements have been made by the U.S. side about their readiness to eliminate nuclear weapons and when the Soviet Union has proposed as a first step the corresponding measures to start that process -- for example, to freeze nuclear weapons, to end nuclear weapons tests, and the non-first use of nuclear weapons -- all these practical steps by the Soviet Union have in fact been rejected by the present U.S. Administration for one reason or another. This is already a fine art, so to speak, for those people who have tried to reject these proposals to make it sound to the public as if the reasons for the U.S. rejections were natural. So you can't solve the question of liquidating nuclear weapons by just making fine wishes. Concrete action needs to embarked on right now so as to completely liquidate nuclear weapons within the next 15 years. That is what is now being proposed by the Soviet Union; to sow all sorts of doubts about this and evade putting things into concrete terms or discussing these problems is to give succour to those forces and those circles who want to continue the nuclear arms race, including the United States. And there are a great deal of them, including in the upper echelons of U.S. power.

Now, a question from IZVESTIYA correspondent Sturua. It is for Comrade Korniyenko. How does the new Soviet proposal for complete liquidation of nuclear weapons harmonize with the Soviet side's position at the Geneva talks, in particular with the proposal on the 50-percent reduction of Soviet and U.S. nuclear weapons?

[Korniyenko] The program we have proposed for the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons on condition of a similar complete ban on space strike armaments have been formulated in such a way that all we proposed at the Geneva talks is organically combined in it. This also applies to the 50-percent reduction in Soviet and U.S. nuclear armaments which can reach each other's territory. Such a reduction would take place during the first and partly, during the second stage of the implementation of the program, as you can see on the chart.

So, no contradictions or difficulties arise between our new program and the continuation of the talks which are currently taking place in Geneva.

[Zamyatin] A question from an AKAHATA correspondent. Has the time not come to put the question signing an international agreement on the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons as soon as possible directly on the agenda of the international disarmament talks, including the Geneva talks? Would not the raising of this question also promote the solution of the question of preventing the militarization of space? Comrade Akhromeyev, please.

[Akhromeyev] The whole of our program that has been put forward and which we are examining here today in fact provides for that very thing. The question always arises of monitoring in that sphere, too. Extremely reliable facilities now exist in the world to verify whether a country is carrying out nuclear tests or not. It is now impossible, with today's level of development in science and technology, to deceive one another, to get around one another. A U.S. public organization, the Council for the Conservation of Natural Resources, has published a report it prepared on the underground nuclear weapons tests that are not announced by the United States -- the ones that are not announced. This organization states the United States has carried out 18 nuclear explosions it has not announced. But, at the same time it states that almost all of them have been recorded by the Hagfors observatory which operates under the Swedish institute of research in the field of national defense. As you can see, even unofficial organizations can detect the explosions that are carried out in the United States and are not announced. So, probably, developed states are able to monitor each other to find out whether the commitment is being carried out or not. The whole point is that the United States does not wish to accept an agreement banning nuclear tests and all sorts of means are used to explain to the world public its unwillingness.

[Zamyatin] A question from Mnatsakanov, Central Television: Does the Soviet Union consider it necessary for all the nuclear powers to support the proposed program right now or could some of them express their attitude toward it at a later stage?

I should like to answer that question. Although the Soviet Union's proposals are addressed first and foremost, to the United States -- at least in the first stage of implementation of the program -- the fundamental political support for it by all the other nuclear powers would be desirable from the very start. It is, in our view, an important prerequisite for putting it into practice, particularly as the Soviet proposals could also become the subject of talks or an exchange of opinions between all the nuclear powers, who would thus be able to express their ideas and get involved in the process of searching for mutually-acceptable solutions.

There is a group of questions from THE NEW YORK TIMES; from (Werner Ademann), correspondent of the FRANKFUERTER ALGEMEINE; and from (Engelbrecht) of the KOELNER STADTANZEIGER in the FRG. The gist of the questions is as follows: Mr. Gorbachev's proposal talks of eliminating Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe in the first stage of universal nuclear disarmament, while British and French missiles will remain in place until the second stage. Is this not a change in the previous stance of the Soviet Union and a movement of this stance closer to President Reagan's zero option proposal? I am not going to read out the other questions, they are similar. The one I read out was THE NEW YORK TIMES question.

[Korniyenko] First, the Soviet proposal has nothing in common with Reagan's zero option, the proposal on medium-range missiles, I mean. On the one hand, the "zero" according to Reagan envisaged that the Soviet Union had to destroy its medium-range missiles both in the European zone and in the east of the country. On the other hand, it did not exclude either the fact that the United States could give its own medium-range missiles to its NATO allies, or that Britain and France could themselves continue to build up their own corresponding nuclear arms. As you know from the statement by the general secretary and as is clear from the chart, this is not at all what we are proposing, so there is no suggestion of any comparison with Reagan's zero option.

Second, the new Soviet proposal on medium-range missiles is of course, a big and, I would say, a bold step on the path to freeing the European Continent of nuclear arms altogether. I would add that now, when the Soviet Union has expressed a willingness to eliminate all of its medium-range missiles here -- that is, in the European zone -- it would appear that even the Europeans who were intimidated by the Soviet SS-20 missiles -- they were intimidated without foundation, but nevertheless some people were intimidated -- that these Europeans will now be able to have their own weighty say as to whether or not they want to have U.S. missiles in their home, under conditions where there will be no Soviet missiles at all in the Soviet part.

[Correspondent in English] My name is (Rogers). I am with ABC.

[Announcer superimposes Russian translation] The ABC television company: Reagan said he considers Gorbachev's new proposal to be a constructive one and that is the general reaction in the world to the Soviet proposal. Why then are you appraising the U.S. standpoint overall in such a negative way?

[Zamyatin] We are not appraising the U.S. position in a completely negative way. We are saying that, along with positive elements, they are now also putting forward problems in their statements that to all intents and purposes act as a brake on these favorable relations. Yesterday, for instance, Weinberger said that there will be no changes in the U.S. position or shifts on issues regarding "star wars" or the SDI program, which we have mentioned.

Second [as heard], I would remind you that none other than Caspar Weinberger said yesterday that the Soviet proposal for a moratorium on nuclear explosions is unacceptable to the United States because at this stage the Soviet Union has allegedly carried out more explosions than the United States. But this is incorrect.

Finally, the same Weinberger says it is not acceptable for the United States to reduce its Pershing missiles now. And why? Because the Soviet Union can transfer its SS-20 missiles to the Asiatic part, then move them back into European country. So it is dangerous to move the Pershings, Weinberger warns. What the Soviet Union is talking about, however, is the liquidation of missiles, including the SS-20's in the European part. So our optimism -- and we would like to be very optimistic in assessing the U.S. position -- is coming up against statements by a number of persons from the upper echelon of the White House, bluntly saying that the most important elements in the Soviet plan are not acceptable to the certain circles which determine U.S. military policy. That is my reply to your question.

There is a long question from a correspondent of the Kuwaiti weekly AL-KHALIJ. It is about an atmosphere of trust. The time scale specified for implementing the new Soviet disarmament plan covers the terms of office of at least three U.S. presidents. Who can guarantee that the implementation of the accord defined in the plan will not be revised or interpreted in a new way, considering the lack of continuity in U.S. policy? All accords presuppose the existence of an atmosphere of trust. Can one also expect a detente in the area of freedom of information, meaning a mutual end to the propaganda campaigns and blame laying?

[Korniyenko] Unfortunately, it is true that the question -- I mean the first question about the lack of continuity in U.S. policy -- always has to be borne in mind, particularly in recent years since the new administration came to power in 1980. We know that a number of documents signed by the previous president have not been put into effect to this day. A number of treaties are being violated by the United States. I would not, however, take the pessimistic attitude that in that case it is completely impossible to try to reach agreement about anything because of what might happen in 2 years' time, or 4 years' time. The history of the United States, the history of Soviet- U.S. relations, and international life on the whole in the postwar period provides examples, good examples, where treaties signed with the United States have been implemented and are continuing to be implemented. Take for example, the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the treaty banning nuclear weapons in the three mediums, and a number of others. So, I say again, our approach is not so pessimistic that the lack of continuity in U.S. policy creates an absolute barrier to achieving any accords. That would be a completely hopeless situation. So, of course, we are in favor of the treaties achieved being implemented regardless of a change in presidents. A treaty is reached and concluded with a state and let us hope for the best.

As far as ending the propaganda and exchanging information are concerned. Then naturally as material measures, as I would call them, are taken -- measures to end the arms race, to bring about disarmament, and in particular, to liquidate nuclear weapons -- the atmosphere will improve. On the other hand, in parallel with this, what we must do -- and we are doing this for our part -- is ensure that the atmosphere is not an obstacle to progress right now on the material side, so to speak. Here we will not be found wanting. We have never been the initiators of psychological warfare, the cold war, and so forth.

[Zamyatin] We have a final question from Kornilov, a TASS correspondent. The question if this: It is known that all previous arms limitation talks have been prolonged. What are the tasks that face the states and the peoples now so that the proposals set out in the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev might be implemented?

The Soviet leadership fully appreciates that the task that has been set is a difficult one and that the search for specific solutions is also a difficult one. In order to completely free the world of nuclear weapons, they require great efforts. But the Soviet leadership realizes equally well that the situation taking shape in the world, or -- if you will -- history, grants us all an extremely short time in which to find such solutions. It has already been stressed several times -- and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has spoken of this more than once, including during his conversations in Geneva with the President of the United States -- that the present world situation is too complex, too dangerous for any delay in resolving problems upon which mankind's survival depends to be permitted; tomorrow the situation may become still more complex and dangerous. The answer to the question asked by the TASS observer I would give as this: Yes, we believe that the world can be rid of the threat of nuclear disaster; the world can be rid of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. What is needed for this? For this, it is necessary that all, upon whom the resolution of the problems indicated depends, demonstrate an understanding of the responsibility they bear and show the political will and readiness to embark without delay upon the quest for practical solutions to questions of nuclear, space, and other armaments. We are convinced of this and we are convinced that the enormous plan, the state-by-stage plan, which the Soviet Union has put forward for state examination, is realizable.

I would like to thank all of you for your attention and bid farewell on behalf of those taking part in the press conference.

Diagram at Press Conference

LD201900 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1525 GMT on 18 January broadcasts a 30-minute report with quoted passages on the press conference held in Moscow by Zamyatin, Akhromeyev, and Korniyenko about Gorbachev's 15 January arms proposal. The video recording reveals a diagram on the rostrum behind the sneakers. The diagram, which is headed "USSR Proposal on a Program for the Complete Elimination of Nuclear Weapons in the Entire World by the Year 2000." is in the form of a time-line chart divided into three columns that are labeled "1st Stage," "2d Stage," and "3d Stage," Although the extreme left of the diagram cannot be seen clearly to indicate a date, the dividing line between the "1st stage" column and the "2d stage" column is labeled "1990," and the one between the "2d stage" and "3d stage" columns is labeled "1995," while the extreme right edge of the chart is labeled "2000."

The following appears in the "1st stage" column below the subhead "USSR and USA:" "terminate all nuclear explosions; over 5-8 years reduce nuclear weapons capable of reaching each other's territory by 50 percent, and renounce manufacture, testing, and deployment of space strike weapons; retain no more than 6,000 warheads per side for the delivery vehicles remaining after the reduction; totally eliminate medium-range missiles (ballistic and cruise) in the European zone; and do not supply strategic missiles, medium-range missiles, or warheads for them to other countries." In the lower portion of the column is the subhead "Britain and France: but the details below the subhead cannot be seen.

The second column contains a "USSR and USA" subhead and the following: "Freeze their tactical nuclear weapons." The column also contains "Other Nuclear Powers" and "All Nuclear Powers" subheads, but the details are not seen.

Centered on the "1995" line and thereby, under both the second and third stage columns is the following: "USSR and USA implement further measures for the elimination of medium-range nuclear weapons."

In the "3d stage" column under a "USSR and USA" subhead appears the following: "complete the elimination of all their remaining nuclear weapons." The column also contains the subhead "Other Nuclear Powers," but the details under it are indistinct.

## CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HOLDS SESSION IN MOSCOW

### CSSR Delegation Arrives

LD201939 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1500 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] A Czechoslovak delegation arrived in Moscow today to attend the 118th session of the CEMA Executive Committee. It is headed by Rudolf Rohlicek, federal vice-premier and permanent representative of Czechoslovakia in CEMA, who will also attend in the Soviet capital the 26th session of the intergovernmental Czechozlovak-Soviet commission for economic, scientific, and technological cooperation.

### Session Opens

LD210941 Moscow TASS in English 0927 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 21 TASS -- The Executive Committee of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) has met for its 118th session here today. The session, which is attended by deputy heads of government of the CMEA member countries and Yugoslavia, is to formalise specific measures designed to implement the comprehensive programme for scientific and technological progress of the CMEA member countries for the period through 2000, which was adopted at the 41st (special) meeting of the CMEA session.

The Executive Committee is also to examine progress in realization of the general agreements on setting up an integrated unified base of electronic engineering products, on microprocessor engineering and industrial robotics.

The session will discuss cooperation of socialist countries in the chemical industry over the past five-year period and outline the priorities in advancing cooperation in this industry for the future.

### ADN on Opening

LD211104 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0942 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Moscow 21 Jan (ADN) -- The 118th meeting of the CEMA Executive Committee opened in Moscow on Tuesday. Ion Totu, deputy prime minister of Romania, is presiding. The GDR delegation is headed by Dr. Herbert Weiz, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of science and technology.

At the beginning of the meeting the participants commemorated the long-standing permanent representative of the GDR at CEMA, Deputy Council of Ministers Chairman Dr. Gerhard Weiss, who died on 7 January.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD191904 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 19 Jan 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer; Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, All-Union Radio and television political observer; and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin, All-Union Radio commentator]

Gorbachev Proposals

[Text] [Levin] Hello, respected comrades. Today we will talk about the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, the general secretary of our party's Central Committee, which was published this week. It is a document of tremendous importance. It is an extremely bold and innovative document, which provides a key to solving the most acute and vital international problems. It is a document which expresses our fundamentally new approach to resolving international problems. The approach is determined by the demands of life itself, and it is dictated by the need to rid mankind of the threat of nuclear disaster, and is reflected both in the materials of last April's plenum of our party's Central Committee and in the Soviet Union's practical actions in the international arena throughout the subsequent period. We will start our discussion today with this aspect, with a principled evaluation of the statement made by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

[Bovin] In this connection, I would like to draw the comrades' attention to the fact that the statement is very closely linked with the draft new edition of our party program, which we are all now discussing. If you look at the draft new edition of the program where it covers the constructive measures that our government and party will adopt to ensure peace and security, this broad, concrete program actually begins with such things as limiting and narrowing the sphere of military preparations. This refers to the nonmilitarization of space; then there is the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, and then the ending of the production of and liquidation of other kinds of weapons of mass destruction. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement develops these these contained in the draft new edition of the program in perfectly concrete terms. This is completely natural because the statement is also like a program, because it is a program of concrete actions up to the end of the 20th century. This circumstance is of substantial, I would say, fundamental importance. It is a document of really programmatic and far-reaching significance, which will determine the main thrust of our foreign policy over a considerable period of time.

[Shishlin] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, I think it is worth pointing out that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement is addressed not only to the United States. It is addressed to our allies, the socialist countries. It is addressed to the Western countries and to the developing world. In fact, it is a message to all mankind, which is confronted by a most pressing problem: that of finding the ways and means to step back from the brink on which man stands as a result of the arms race and the senseless accumulation of mountains of nuclear and new armaments. But the very fact that this comprehensive program for peace and disarmament is being put forward in the first weeks of 1986 shows that it is necessary to tackle, as an urgent matter, the problems of a freeze on nuclear weapons, the liquidation of nuclear weapons, and the blocking of all avenues that may take the arms race into space. In this sense, the Soviet program is already being of service to the present day and to 1986, as the year in which a change for the better in the development of international relations really must be achieved.

[Levin] As everyone knows from the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, the Soviet Union is proposing that all nuclear weapons existing on earth be liquidated by the end of 1999.

This aim can be achieved, in our view, in three stages. During the first stage, the nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union and the United States, which are capable of reaching each other's territory, would be halved. Here I would like to note the following: When we put forward this proposal earlier, the U.S. side began deliberating on the subject of how the U.S. missiles in Europe were to be considered, because they could reach the territory of the Soviet Union. To that question the new proposals give a completely clear answer: It is proposed to liquidate both the U.S. and the Soviet missiles in the European zone. That removes the whole question, and at the same time a start is made in the process of completely freeing Europe of nuclear weapons.

During the second stage, which would start no later than 1990 and last for 5 to 7 years, the other nuclear powers would begin to embark on nuclear disarmament. Initially they would undertake a pledge to freeze all their nuclear weapons and not to deploy them on the territories of other countries. After the USSR and the United States complete the 50 percent reduction in their corresponding weapons during the second stage, another radical step is taken whereby all the nuclear powers liquidate their tactical nuclear weapons, in other words systems with a range of up to 1,000 km. All the nuclear powers would end nuclear weapons tests, and the creation of non-nuclear weapons based on new physical principles would be banned.

Finally, during the third stage, which would start no later than 1995, the liquidation of all remaining nuclear weapons would be completed. By the end of 1999 no more nuclear weapons would remain on earth. A universal accord would be drawn up to ensure that these weapons never again appear. This means that special procedures would be developed for destroying nuclear weapons and dismantling, re-equipping, or destroying the delivery vehicles. To put it briefly, what we are proposing is to enter the third millenium without nuclear weapons on the basis of mutually acceptable and strictly monitored accords.

[Bovin] In this connection there are many people who, in fact, have a very positive attitude toward this whole package of proposals and want them to be carried out; but, they ask whether this is not a utopia. They ask whether it is not a utopia when they think of U.S. policy, the enormous mountains of weapons that have been stockpiled and the enormous momentum of the military-industrial complexes, not just in the United States but throughout the whole world. Is this not a utopian question, particularly when you look at history and see that the idea of beating swords into ploughshares was probably put forward a good 2,000 years ago, but all that time they have been doing it the other way around, as far as I can see -- beating ploughshares into swords? If you take the period closer in time to us, the postwar period, an enormous amount of time has been spent by various delegations trying to reach agreement on disarmament, while all that time the mountains of weapons grew.

On the background of all this, I repeat, the people who agree with what we say and who are ready to fight for this still have a nagging doubt that this is a utopia. This is quite a serious thing that we have to see, know, reckon with, and somehow explain it all to ourselves and others, particularly as the very concept of utopia and non-utopia changes with time. That same statement speaks of the need for a new political way of thinking, and this is not simply a metaphor or a phrase. The point is that throughout the long history of mankind, whatever we have done -- people were killed, whole peoples died off and were killed, civilizations were destroyed -- people always knew that the future was guaranteed. You could have battles, you could make mistakes and millions of people could be destroyed, but there was a future: mankind's immortality was guaranteed, despite the mortality, so to speak, of actual people, civilizations, states, peoples, and what have you. And herein lies the fundamental change that has taken place in human history: now we have no guaranteed future.

That is the most important thing, because for the first time in history, mankind has become technically able to destroy itself.

This changes all our ideas, including our ideas of what is utopia and what is realism. Incidentally, I would like to read an extract from a book by the well-known American publicist Schell called "The Fate of the Earth." It is quite a difficult quotation, so I ask you, comrades, to listen carefully. This is what Schell writes: realism, and he puts that word in quotation marks, is the name given to ideas whose most prominent feature is the inability to recognize the chief reality of our age -- the pit into which the human species risk falling. He continues as follows: utopian, which he also puts in quotation marks, is the name given to any plan which shows the serious intention of enabling mankind to avoid destruction. He goes on to explain: If the desire to survive is called utopian, then the path to death must be realistic. He then completes this thought as follows: It is with these frightening adjectives paralyzing all thought that the proponents of maintaining the status quo retain an anachronistic way of thinking and the striving to block the revolution of thought and action that is necessary for mankind to continue its existence. Now, in fact, the most realistic way of destroying nuclear weapons is the one that was usually considered utopian: to demand that all nuclear weapons be liquidated. That is the most realistic step, because everything else, as Schell rightly said, is the path to death. But we are choosing life. It is only in this context that one can understand this qualitative change in strategic thinking that lies at the basis of the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

[Shishlin] I would like to continue this line of thought and draw our listeners' attention to the fact that the nuclear age requires nonstereotypical decisions and thinking. The plan put forward by the Soviet leader constitutes precisely such a nonstereotypical decision. In what way is it nonstereotypical? Mainly because a perfectly clear new principle runs through this document, these ideas, and these practical proposals when security, international security, the security of every state, is equally shared by all. I am talking about universal security as such. Moreover, this statement and these ideas are in line with the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program. Our critics, or to be more precise our opponents, often reproach the CPSU for the fact that it, they say, professes some kind of messianism and intends to spread the communist system throughout the world.

In the draft of the new edition of the CPSU Program the outlook of Soviet Communists on the world's future is set out very convincingly, an outlook that is quite alien to other people's ideas of happiness. The ideas put forward in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement are quite lucid and clearly convince one that the Soviet Union is striving to compete with capitalism, not in such a dangerous sphere as the arms race, which is truly capable of leading mankind into a nuclear abyss, but is striving for competition on a peace front; competition which not only does not rule out, but proposes peaceful cooperation and the cohabitation of various peoples and states in peace. It seems to me that there is, of course, a future for this new approach to international relations because mankind quite simply now has no other choice. But this new approach -- and here we must take a realistic look at things -- it will, of course, become established in a very complex political struggle. There will probably be many more twists and turns ahead. Indeed, the first reaction, incidentally, to the Soviet statement from the United States was complex enough. It is true that some fine words were dropped, there was talk of the constructive nature of the ideas set forth by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, but official Washington still puts forward enough provisos.

[Levin] Yes, and the first proviso concerns the extremely important problem of preventing the militarization of outer space. The United States is stubbornly moving toward the implementation of what they call the SDI. The Soviet Union stresses that at the very first stage, leading to the liquidation of nuclear weapons, it is necessary to reach an accord whereby a perfectly clear obstacle would be put in the way of the creation of space strike weapons.

[Bovin] Indeed, the very way the question was put is also a part of new political thinking and the new understanding of the security problems that Nikolay Vladimirovich mentioned. For the whole thing amounts to, well, let us say the prenuclear understanding, if you like, of such problems was that everyone makes his own security through specific actions, for example stockpiling weapons and creating armies so that one guarantees the security of his state. That was the classical concept of security, which no longer works today. But the Americans continue to think just that way. What does the "star wars" program mean for them? To invent some kind of wonder weapon that will make the United States absolutely invulnerable. That's Reagan's logic! Well, the absolute invulnerability of the United States means the absolute vulnerability of everyone else. And this is just what they do not want to understand. Nor do they want to understand such an elementary thing as the fact that the keys to the United States' security now do not lie in Washington; they lie in Moscow. Incidentally, the reverse is also true. That is why security can only be thought of in terms of mutual security, and the only kind of security that can be stable and guaranteed in the nuclear age is mutual security based not on stockpiling weapons but the reverse, on accord, on trust, and on mutual understanding, which leads to a reduction in these mountains of weapons and, in the long term, to their liquidation, to which end our statement is directed. That is very important.

[Levin] One may add to this the fact that our proposal for the prevention of the militarization of outer space does not in any way infringe upon the interests of the security of the United States simply because we ourselves have made the same commitments, absolutely the same ones. An absence of logic runs through the U.S. position in the key approach. As is known, in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on the results of the Geneva meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan, it was established that the Soviet Union and the United States declare that a nuclear war must never be unleashed and that there can be no winners in it. The Soviet Union and the United States will not strive to achieve military superiority. Well, from this, one must make the logical conclusions that one cannot talk about arms reduction and, at the same time, open up another channel for the arms race and transfer it to outer space. Our proposal stresses precisely the desire to liquidate nuclear weapons, and we are reaffirming this new thinking with concrete deeds, too. First and foremost, this is reaffirmed by our decision to extend the moratorium on carrying out nuclear explosions until 31 March of this year.

[Bovin] Then there is the problem of monitoring. The Americans have been stirring things up all the time and reproaching us, saying: We do not trust you. And yet, you all the time, so to speak, seem to reject this monitoring. You do not want to allow our observers into your territory, But, Mikhail Sergeyevich writes here, saying: Look here, if it is a question of, say, space matters, we are prepared to open up our laboratories. Do come in and see what we are doing. But, naturally, on the basis of reciprocity...

[Shishlin, interrupting] Naturally, with the proviso of monitoring the prevention of work on the militarization of outer space...

[Bovin, interrupting] Yes, that is a very important point, Nikolay Vladimirovich, because the Americans say yes, ok, let them come and we can observe how we, you, and you will be doing this same "star wars" program. We say, no, what is the point of supervising this?

Let us rather monitor the fact that we will not make these new space strike systems. That is our proposal, but somehow I have not noticed a lot of enthusiasm from Washington on this matter.

[Shishlin] Well, the Geneva talks which the Soviet Union and the United States have been conducting on nuclear and space armaments have just resumed. And, you know from statements by our diplomats the kind of instructions and directives with which they left Moscow for Geneva. The statement by Kampelman, the head of the U.S. delegation, is also well known. Typically, in Kampelman's statements and in statements by more senior figures in the U.S. Administration, there is talk of the United States' readiness to seek an outcome on strategic offensive armaments, and there is talk about the United States being fully willing to find a solution to the problems of medium-range nuclear weapons. But as far as the SDI is concerned, the United States considers that on no account must its sacred cow in the policy of strength be touched. But as far as the key problem, the nonmilitarization of outer space and the nontransfer of the arms race to outer space is concerned, this is, in fact the alpha and omega of the whole problem of curtailing the arms race, the whole problem of a radical improvement in international relations and an improvement in Soviet-U.S. relations.

[Levin] The Soviet leader's statement pays particular attention to the situation in Europe, and this is natural, because a vast quantity of weaponry has been amassed on both sides of the European Continent. In this regard, of course, one's attention is drawn to the fact that the Soviet Union has unilaterally decided to reduce the number of its medium-range missiles located in the European zone, and has for 2 months, as promised,been dismantling those missiles that were installed in response to the siting of U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe. On our side there are now 243 missiles. But while we have been embarking on this course, the U.S. side has been continuing to deploy the selfsame Pershing missiles on FRG soil, and has deployed all 108 somewhat earlier even than had been scheduled under NATO's plans.

[Shishlin] In actual fact, Viktor Nikolayevich there are somewhat more there. That is to say, there are 108 on alert duty, but there are 156 there.

[Bovin] They are there as spares, so they say.

[Shishlin] Yes.

[Bovin] It is a matter of Europe's special mission. Indeed one is aware that of all the continents, Europe is the most ripe for detente despite, incidentally, this real saturation of weapons and military manpower.

[Levin] Perhaps it is precisely thanks to this.

Shevardnadze Visit to Japan

[Bovin] Well, there is some logic in that, although this is a complex question. In any event, the fact is that for the first time, Europe has become a laboratory for detente. Indeed, despite all the difficulties and obstacles which have been put and still are being put into the Helsinki process, Europe is nevertheless in the best situation compared with other continents. At least it has not had any military conflicts or crisis situations for a long time now. Our idea, which is reflected in the statement, is that this European experience, precisely this experience of detente and experience of accord on certain fundamental assumptions regulating East-West relations and relations between states in general, should be transferred to other continents. If you like, it is the idea of globalizing detente. This is also one of the fundamental ideas of the statement, namely, that this European experience be transferred to Asia. Incidentally, it is very important to do this, but dreadfully difficult, because nowhere else perhaps, are there so many different conflicts, including political, territorial, religious, ethnic, and whatever you like, conflicts, as in Asia.

Therefore, this idea of security and of some kind of collective measures of general security is very important for Asia. We are aware, of course, that here there cannot be any quick solutions, because the problems are very numerous. Well, one might say that this idea, which, perhaps, runs right through our policy -- this idea of security in Asia -- will determine our specific steps and measures and there is, for instance, presently the visit of Japan by our minister of foreign affairs.

[Shishlin] Indeed, what I would precisely like to say, Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich -- and you have already mentioned the visit of Eduard Amvrosyevich Shevardnadze to Japan -- is that some positive elements too are building up in Asia. This Soviet-Japanese dialogue has, of course, now come to the fore. I think that there will be both pluses and minuses there, but nevertheless the pluses will prevail.

[Levin] There has not been such a visit as this for 10 years.

[Shishlin] Generally speaking, in any event the Soviet-Japanese dialogue has not only been resumed, we may say, but is also beginning to acquire some substance, and an interest in cooperation does definitely exist both on our side and on the Japanese side.

Another point in speaking of the pluses that are building up in Asia is, of course, that there is a continuation, albeit slowly and with some jerkiness, of the process of an improvement in Soviet-Chinese relations. I think our listeners will have paid attention to the fact that the statement pays tribute to the circumstance that indeed two nuclear powers in Asia, the Soviet Union and the PRC,have taken upon themselves the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. This is a major political fact.

Then there have been the vigorous actions of the DPRK to improve the situation in the Korean Peninsula. There were the recent initiatives by the Korean comrades, which sharply limit the scale of the military maneuvers and altogether renounce the holding of military maneuvers during the period of the talks between North and South Korea. That is also a good step. That is to say, there are some pluses building up.

Of course, in this regard, one cannot fail to mention the efforts by the three states of Indochina, who are advocating the transformation of the Southeast Asian area into a zone of peace, stability and peaceful cooperation.

It is true, and doubly so, that the idea of collective security in Asia by itself with account being taken of all the complexities that are present and have been inserted in this vast political area will be implemented, of course, only by great efforts; and in this regard no one has the monopoly for putting forward a single constructive idea that will resolve everything and bring everything into accord. Here there is a requirement for really systematic efforts in order to untie these tight and difficult knots that have formed in the area step by step.

It is to this end that Soviet policy is directed, and in this respect the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, about which the whole world is now talking, is certainly directed at detente becoming universal, at detente encompassing both political and military problems and at detente being firmly based. Essentially it is a question of the Soviet statement being aimed at creating what I would call a coalition of common sense and political goodwill and at really proceeding step by step along the path of disarmament and improving international relations.

[Levin] In this connection, I would like to mention a further point that is emphasized in the statement. This is that the responsibility for the further development of international relations and the responsibility for the fate of peace lies on each and every one. Fairly frequently one can hear it being said that the Soviet Union and the United States, the two great powers who have the biggest military potential, above all nuclear potential, should solve these problems, while the rest of the world finds itself, as it were, in the role of an observer of this exchange.

This is, from our viewpoint, an absolutely wrong and defective approach. Everyone must take an active part and can and must do so, in the process of normalizing the situation and resolving the problems that confront mankind. Incidentally, it is precisely such an approach that the socialist countries are displaying. Let us consider what steps have been taken, albeit just recently. The GDR and Czechoslovakia made a proposal to the FRG that talks be held on the creation of a zone free of chemical weapons in Central Europe. Bulgaria and Romania have advocated the creation of a zone free of chemical weapons in the Balkans and confirmed their support for the creation of a nuclear-free zone there. These are paths that lead to the solution of yet another problem that was put forward in Comrade Gorbachev's statement, namely the elimination of chemical weapons and the banning of chemical weapons.

Western European states too can do a very great deal. If the new way of thinking and understanding of the responsibility, the very profound responsibility lies with everyone for the fate of peace, become decisive in the political actions and concrete actions of all states, the cause of peace will, of course, gain.

Take note of very high assessment with which the Soviet proposals have been welcomed abroad. I am not speaking here about the unanimous support by the Soviet people and our friends in the socialist countries. This support is natural and logical, and as it were, goes without saying because we are a united whole and are stubbornly and steadfastly striving for a strengthening of peace. But see how the Soviet initiatives were greeted in the capitalist countries: Yesterday, for example, there was a meeting, about which you obviously know, between Comrade Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, and Nakasone, the Japanese premier, in Tokyo, and the Japanese premier gave a very high appraisal of the proposals set forth in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement. A similar appraisal has also been given by representatives of many other governments. One's attention is drawn to the fact that no one, literally no one, decided to speak out against the Soviet proposals, although, as we are aware, our bold initiatives are a thorn in the side again, for the military-industrial complex, and we are well aware that the path of implementing these proposals will be by no means a simple one. But this is the demand of the times. The Soviet initiatives pave the way to the future for mankind.

Here, esteemed comrades, we come to the end of our program. All the best to you! Thank you for your attention!

SUPREME SOVIET SENDS MESSAGE TO U.S. CONGRESS

PM191826 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 1,2

[Unattributed report: "Address by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to the U.S. Congress"]

[Text] Follows the full text of the address of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the U.S. Congress:

Esteemed members of the Congress of the United States of America,

Guided by the aims of reducing international tension, which has reached dangerous proportions, striving to ward off the threat of mankind's nuclear destruction, and, on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet, its Presidium addresses you on the question, whose solution brooks no delay.

The nuclear arms race, which devours tremendous material resources and which leads to the unproductive squandering of our countries' scientific and technological potential, is continuing. The rivalry in the military sphere is the main source of instability, a growing threat to peace.

One cannot put up with such a state of affairs any longer, when the danger of a nuclear catastrophe hands over the heads of the people like the sword of Damocles. It is the conscience of mankind, the natural instinct of self-preservation that calls for doing away with it.

This is precisely why the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Soviet States' supreme organ of legislative power, resolutely speaks out in support of the attainment of weighty and efficient decisions at the current negotiations, that would firmly put an end to the arms race both in outer space and on earth and would enable the release of huge sums of money for creative purposes, for assistance to the peoples striving to liquidate their economic backwardness. Of great significance in that matter could be actions on the basis of mutual example, parallel steps that could prevent the situation from deteriorating, could be a spur to moving away from decades of nuclear armaments stockpiling to joint, consistent efforts to eliminate them.

The USSR Supreme Soviet welcomed the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva, qualifying the negotiations between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan as creating possibilities for changing to the constructive quest for ways of normalizing Soviet-U.S. relations, ways of improving the international situation as a whole.

Both the Soviet Union and the United States share the goal of liquidating nuclear weapons fully and everywhere. In our view, it is now necessary to start advancing jointly toward this goal. The question arises which path is to be taken?

We know of the concept which says it is allegedly possible to come to liquidation of nuclear weapons by creating qualitatively new armaments and their placement in outer space. We are convinced, however, that to shape policy on such a calculation means to commit an irreparable error. The history of the arms race has convincingly proved that no new weapons lessen the danger to mankind, but on the contrary, heighten it. In the event of the appearance of weapons in outer space, the nuclear arms race would be escalated with unprecedented force and follow the most dangerous directions rather than be stopped.

For the first time in the history of the nuclear age, the Soviet Union has put forward a wide-scale, concrete and accurately timed program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere. We propose to implement and complete within the next 15 years -- that is as early as the year 2000 -- the process of ridding the earth of nuclear weapons given the ban on space strike arms. Mankind should enter the third millenium free from the burden of the most destructive weapons which have placed the lives of all people in jeopardy.

Concrete proposals on that score are contained in the statement made by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on 15 January 1986.

Within the framework of that program, 50-percent reductions of the relevant Soviet and U.S. nuclear arms would constitute only the first stage, to be followed both by further reductions in the Soviet and U.S. arsenals and the joining of the other nuclear powers in that process. Reliable verification, including on-site inspections, would be established.

As is known, the Soviet Union has long proposed to free Europe from nuclear weapons, both intermediate-range and tactical ones. Without the framework of the first stage of the program we consider it possible to agree on the complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles in the European zone, both ballistic and cruise missiles. The realization of such an agreement would serve as a first step along the road to ridding the European Continent of nuclear weapons.

In so doing the United States should, naturally, pledge not to supply its strategic and intermediate-range missiles to other countries, while Britain and France should pledge not to build up their respective nuclear arms.

The U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range nuclear arms would be eliminated completely in the course of further implementing the program.

The USSR Supreme Soviet urges the U.S. Congress to choose exactly the alternative formulated in our program -- this only reasonable and feasible alternative to nuclear weapons. It is our conviction that at the present time there exist all the necessary prerequisites for this.

The USSR proposes to solve the question of chemical weapons as radically -- to completely eliminate these weapons together with their industrial base under strict verification, including international on-site inspections.

To take a practical step toward curbing the arms race in its most dangerous direction -- the nuclear direction -- further staging of any nuclear tests should be stopped, first and foremost. For it is clear, that if there are no nuclear explosions, there will be no basis for improving nuclear arms and developing [sozdaniye] their new, even more destructive, types. For in the absence of the tests an objective process of obsolescence of the nuclear arsenals and, in the last analysis, their complete withering away would begin.

Striving to set a good example, the Soviet Union stopped holding any nuclear explosions on its territory as of 6 August 1985 and strictly abides by that unilateral obligation. At the same time, the USSR urged the U.S. Government to show restraint as well and for its part, give up the holding of nuclear explosions.

Unfortunately, it has to be stated that to date the U.S. side has not responded in kind to that peaceable action of the Soviet Union. And new nuclear weapon explosions are conducted in the United States.

The movement for an end to nuclear tests is mounting in the world. We know that the demands to put an end to these dangerous experiments are also broadening in your country. Responding to the calls of the public, prominent statesmen, and public figures of all continents and guided by the striving to ensure solution of the question on a mutual basis, the Soviet Union has declared the extension of our unilateral moratorium for three more months.

The Soviet Union thereby demonstrates in deed restraint in the military sphere, on the need to display which our countries agreed upon in Geneva. The USSR undertook the step with the thought in mind to give the U.S. side extra time to make the decision that the peoples of the whole world are expecting from Washington. We call upon the United States to follow the Soviet Union's example, not to block the realisation of this very important task which is of great significance for the whole of mankind any longer.

The arguments of those who advocate continuation of nuclear tests are totally at odds with the interests of consolidating strategic stability and preventing the threat of war. The arms race — and the continuing nuclear experiments are aimed precisely at whipping it up -- cannot be the mainstay of durable peace. On the contrary, the testing of ever new types of nuclear weapons and putting them into service heightens tension, breeds mistrust and mutual suspicion, and brings the threat of a fatal conflict, which should be avoided nearer rather than wards it off.

Should the moratorium on nuclear explosions become mutual, this would undoubtedly give a powerful impetus to attaining agreements on limiting and reducing nuclear armaments, consolidating and broadening mutual confidence. The moratorium is an indispensable and important element in the general context of efforts aimed at ending the arms race, at implementing the fundamental accords that were reached in Geneva.

At the same time, questions of verificationare by no means an obstacle to the introduction of the moratorium. The Soviet side is prepared to go far -- right to mutual on-site inspections to verify the non-conduct of explosions. The road to a mutually acceptable accord has been opened here. What is needed to cover that road is political will alone. The Soviet side has such a will. Making this address on behalf of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, its presidium expresses the hope that the U.S. Congress and its members will raise their voices in support of the complete and general elimination of nuclear weapons and in favor of the introduction of a bilateral Soviet-U.S. moratorium on any nuclear explosions as a first step toward this goal. There can be no doubt that such a position by the U.S. Congress would be assessed everywhere as a manifestation of high responsibility for enhancing the security of nations, for the destinies of universal peace.

The time has come to put an end to the nuclear arms race madness. Nuclear blasts must be stopped from disfiguring the beautiful face of our common home, the planet earth. The nuclear threat should be eliminated for good.

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet

## ZHUKOV CRITICIZES SPEAKES' BRIEFING ON NEW PROPOSALS

PM202031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Yuriy Zhukov "Political Observer's Notes": "What Do You Say When There Is Nothing to Say?"]

[Text] When you read the pronouncements by U.S. officials who have the job of explaining things to the press, you begin to feel sorry for them: How can they say something, poor wretches, when there is nothing to say?

The main question they are being asked at the moment, of course, is that of Washington's attitude toward the new range of Soviet foreign policy initiatives aimed at eliminating all nuclear weapons, preventing the militarization of space, and eliminating all other means of mass destruction. Everyone is waiting for a reply from the U.S. Administration, which, in principle, welcomed the initiatives and promised to study them closely.

So here we have White House spokesman L. Speakes appearing before journalists once again. A question is fired at him immediately:

"Wasn't the latest, pretty comprehensive Soviet proposal a response to our proposals, so why don't we respond to this Soviet proposal now?"

The White House spokesman spent a good while beating about the bush in addressing the burning topic of the elimination of nuclear weapons, then he said:

"It is, as the secretary of state said, a very complex issue which demands a great deal of discussion. We are eagerly looking forward to this discussion."

**A new** question. What is the White House spokesman's comment on the Soviet proposal to eliminate all Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe? The journalists believe this proposal could be "attractive" to the U.S. allies. L. Speakes goes whole hog:

"The Russians," he says, "want to eliminate weapons on our (?) side, while at the same time they want to keep (?!) their own weapons, which enable them to deliver a retaliatory strike and have the potential to deliver a first strike against Europe. Therefore I..."

The journalists, thinking that L. Speakes had gotten somewhat confused, since they knew that the Soviet proposals envisage the elimination of all -- U.S. and Soviet -- medium-range missiles in the European Zone, interrupted him:

"You mean the missiles deployed in Asia?"

"No, no," L. Speakes doggedly pursued his nonsensical theme. "My first impression (?) is that they want to keep all their armaments deployed in the European part of the USSR — in Eastern Europe."

"Are you claiming," the stupefied journalists ask, "that according to the timetable drawn up by the Russians, NATO weapons are to be eliminated first and that this poses a problem?"

"Quite correct," declared the White House spokesman without blushing.

The correspondents wanted to further know how the White House assesses the Soviet proposal on verification of the elimination of nuclear arms. As is known, this issue was exhaustively covered in the 15 January statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee: "The elaboration of special procedures is envisaged for the destruction of nuclear weapons and also for the dismantling, conversion, or destruction of delivery vehicles. The quantities of weapons to be eliminated at each stage, the sites where they are to be destroyed, and so forth, are to be agreed."

So what did the White House spokesman have to say in reply to this question?

"This problem has been raised," he said. "We regard this as a hopeful sign. But in my view it is necessary to be much more specific as regards verification of the observance of treaties."

(How much more specific can you get when the destruction of missiles -- as the statement says -- is to be carried out "on the basis of mutually acceptable and strictly verifiable accords." Yu.Zh.) "If the elimination of weapons means their destruction, then this must be verified..."

And what does the White House spokesman think about the Soviet proposal on the impermissibility of the militarization of space?

"Without question, we do not agree with them on SDI because, in our view, this program benefits both (?!) sides."

How come?! The Pentagon wants to prepare for a strike against the USSR from space and we, it appears, should regard this as "benefiting" us!

Lastly, the journalists ask: Is the United States planning, in order to demonstrate "a climate of good feeling, to cancel in response to the Soviet statement any upcoming antisatellite or nuclear weapon test?"

"I don't think so," the White House spokesman declared drily, "there has been no change in the U.S. position on nuclear tests."

So this is how they brief the news media in Washington, while a specially established interagency commission is studying the new Soviet foreign policy initiatives which have been so warmly welcomed by the U.S. President.

U.S. TO CONDUCT CRUISE MISSILE TESTS IN CANADA

LD200725 Moscow TASS in English 0707 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Ottawa, January 20 TASS -- Four flight tests of American cruise missiles will be carried out over Canadian territory this year. According to a communiques by the command of the Canadian Armed Forces, the first testing will be held tomorrow. The missile will be fired from a B-52 bomber above the Sea of Beaufort and, after flying about 2,500 kilometres, is to land at the cold lake test site in Alberta Province.

During the testing, fighter planes of the Canadian Air Force will simulate an interception attempt in order to check the missile's ability to overcome the enemy's air-defences. American fighter aircraft are slated for use during the following three tests.

The Pentagon chose Canadian territory for testing cruise missiles because its geographical and climatic conditions are similar to those of Soviet territory. Four tests of air-to-ground cruise missiles, which are being developed by the American Boeing company, were conducted last year.

The testing sparked off protests by Canadian peace campaigners who stressed their provocative character. A spokesman for the Canadian section of the international Greenpeace conservationist organization announced that the Canadian peace activists will time fresh protest actions to coincide with the Pentagon-scheduled tests.

## WU XUEQIAN FOREIGN POLICY REPORT NOTED

LD171930 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Text] Xinhua Agency reports: On January 16 China's Foreign Msnister Wu Xueqian delivered a report on the international situation and China's foreign policy acitivities in 1985 at a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Natinal People's Congress. He said that on the whole the international situation during the past year has become less tense. The fact that Soviet-American had passed from hopeless confrontation to struggle accompanied by dialogue was a clear expression of this.

The United States and the USSR, he said, restored dialogue in order to prevent antagonism from escapting control. This resulted in a certain improvementof their relations and the internationalsituation. This should be welcomed. However, although the United States and the USSR continuously conducted contacts and talks in 1985 the position of both countries on major issues remained unchanged.

Wu Xueqian said that the United States and the USSR should go beyond mere statements and take practical measures, that by way of serious talks they should reach agreement on a substantial reduction ofnuclear arms and non-militarisation of outer space and thereby create thenecessary conditions for a comprehensive ban on nuclear arms and their ultimate liquidation.

Touching on Chinese policy Wu Xueqian said that more points of contact had appeared in relations between China and Western Europe, that the development of stable relations of friendship and cooperation with countries of Western Europe for a lengthy period of time on the basis of defence of peace and expansion of economic cooperation through joint efforts was an important aspect of China's foreign policy.

The development of relations between the PRC AND THE USA during the past period was comparat ively smooth, Wu Xueqian noted. Butthe Taiwan issue remains the main obstacle in Sino-American relations and invariably serves as a concealed factor fraught with a serious threat to Sino-American relations.

The minister noted the improvementof China's relations with the socialist countries of Eastern Europe. China's economic relations with these countries have acquired a new development.

[A Moscow TASS in English Report at 1830 GMT on 17 January completes the preceding sentence with the following:and new channels of cooperation have opened, he said.]

Wu Xueqian said that Sino-Soviet relations who had improved to a certain extent during the past year and that economic and trade relations between the two countries had been given a relatively big boost. Bilateral exchanges in some other fields as well have become more frequent, he said. The PRC foreign minister noted that political relations between the PRC and the USSR had not been fundamentally improved hitherto because of the "three big obstacles". By this China refers to questions not of relations between China and the Soviet Union but of the Soviet Union's relations with third countries.

China, Wu Xueqian said, sincerely wishes to establish goodneighbourly and friendly relations with the Soviet Union on the basis of five principles of peaceful coexistence. China has taken note of the desire to improve relations between the two countries expressed by the new Soviet leadership.

PRC SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON TIES WITH USSR

OW171405 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1100 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] At a news briefing in Beijing on Wednesday, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the Soviet Union has repeatedly proposed the signing of a nonaggression treaty with China over the past year, and that the Chinese side has rejected the proposal. The Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman once again linked the question on normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations with the so-called three obstacles. As you know, they are questions involving Soviet relations with third countries.

USSR-PRC PROTOCOL ON TRANSPORT SIGNED IN BEIJING

LD171135 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1108 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Beijing, 17 Jan (TASS) -- A protocol has been signed here on talks between USSR and PRC Government delegations on transport. It contains the agreed volume of shipments of external-trade freight by various modes of transport for the period 1986-90. The protocol also envisages the resumption of freight shipments by river transport as of May 1986. The document was signed by Gennadiy Zhuravlev, USSR first Deputy Foreign trade minister, and Wang Pinqing, PRC deputy minister of foreign economic relations and trade.

The Soviet delegation was received by Li Peng, member of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the PRC State Council. The delegation also had a meeting with Zang Tuobin, PRC minister of foreign economic relations and trade.

U.S., PRC CONDUCT JOINT NAVAL EXERCISES 12 JAN

LD182202 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] The KYODO TSUSHIN news agency reports from Beijing, referring to diplomatic circles, that on 12 January naval forces from the United States and the PRC carried out joint exercises in the northern part of the South China Sea, in which two warships from each side took part. On the American side, warships which are part of the U.S. naval forces in the Pacific Ocean took part, along with a Chinese destroyer and a refuelling vessel.

PRC SUPPORTS DPRK CALL FOR END TO MILITARY MANEUVERS

LD201359 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Beijing January 20 TASS -- A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry has issued a statement in support of the proposals advanced by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for ending major military exercises from February 1 this year, and any military manoeuvres on the Korean Peninsula during talks with South Korea.

We hope that the American Government and the South Korean authorities will vigorously and earnestly respond to the DPRK Government's appeal, the statement says.

## PRC PRESS CITED ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PM171514 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 17 Jan 86 p 5

[TASS report: "PRC Press on the Country's Economy"]

[Text] Beijing -- Zhao Weichen, vice minister of the PRC State Economic Commission, has reported to a conference here that the country's gross industrial product in 1985 amounted to 823.8 billion yuan, which is 17.7 percent higher than in 1984. He noted the progress made last year in the fuel and energy sector and transport which, however, in his words, remain weak links in the country's economy.

According to preliminary figures, China in 1985 extracted 850 million metric tons of coal and 124.8 million metric tons of oil, generated 407.3 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity, and produced 46 million metric tons of steel, 43.6 million metric tons of cast iron, and 37 million metric tons of rolled metal.

Examining the economic and social development tasks in the Seventh 5-Year Plan (1986-1990), the Chinese press notes that technical progress will be speeded up this year. The task is to complete the retooling of more than half the country's major and medium-sized enterprises within the 5 years.

At the same time it is stressed that the scale of capital construction will be monitored even more strictly in future. According to the newspaper GUANMING RIBAO the amount of capital investments in fixed assets has clearly exceeded the country's financial and material potential, which leads to disruption of the overall balance of the national economy and threatens serious damage to the economy.

According to a PRC State Statistical Bureau report, the growth of prices in the market, the excessive increase in imports, and the sharp reduction in the country's foreign currency reserves also present the economy with serious problems. According to PRC Commerce Ministry figures, the circulation in 1984 of a larger than usual money supply resulted in increased retail prices for a number of consumer goods, including foodstuffs. In Vice Commerce Minister Jiang Xi's opinion, there will remain a serious shortage of certain kinds of consumer goods as the growth in the Chinese population's purchasing power continues to outstrip the development of the production of those goods.

## MORE REPORTS ON SHEVARDNADZE VISIT TO JAPAN

### Reception Speeches Noted

OW180233 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze is continuing his visit to Japan. In Japan, a new nuclear disarmament proposal put forward by General Secretary Gorbachev is now the focus of attention.

At a reception honoring Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, Foreign Minister Abe positively appraised the new Soviet proposal and expressed the hope that Japanese-Soviet relations would be built on the basis of stable mutual understanding.

Foreign Minister Shevardnadze noted the importance of the resumption of a direct political dialogue between the Soviet Union and Japan. He said: We hope that the Japanese Government will contribute to the abolition of nuclear and chemical weapons and to the prevention of the development of space arms.

### Shevardnadze Tours Sights

LD171708 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Comrade Shevarnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, who is in Japan on an official visit, has acquainted himself with the sights of the Japanese capital and visited the car works of the Nissan company. Accompanied by Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shintaro Abe, he attended a Kabuki performance by the Japanese national theater.

### Talks Make Ties 'Warmer'

LD172109 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Vladimir Tsvetov video report from Tokyo: "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] The official visit of Comrade Shevardnadze to Japan is continuing.

The Japanese consider that spring starts on the first day of the new year. Perhaps there is a grain of truth in this assertion. In any case warm rain fell yesterday for the first time in Tokyo, and today I cut some camelia flowers from a tree. I am talking about this because in recent times the word "climate" usually used with a political meaning. And the political climate in relations between the Soviet Union and Japan has become warmer as a result of today's talks.

The statement by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU has had a huge influence on both the essence and spirit of the talks, during which both sides have expressed a united opinion about the necessity for effective measures to lower tension in the world, including in the Asian and Pacific region.

Japanese business circles are discussing the course of the conversations of the Soviet and Japanese ministers of foreign affairs as animatedly as are those in the political world. And Comrade Shevardnadze's visit to the works of the Nissan motor vehicle firm is directly linked with the appearance of new chances for economic trade and technical cooperation between the USSR and Japan. With these (?timber) carrying trucks, which the firm will deliver to the USSR this year, there will be a total of 8,800 large Nissan trucks working in our country.

The works which Comrade Shevardnadze visited is one of the most modern in Japan. Here 6,000 workers make 420,000 vehicles per year.

Soviet-Japanese trade, economic and cultural ties are beginning a fruitful year.

## Talks with Nakasone, Abe

OW190058 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, who is currently in Japan on an official visit, met with Prime Minister Nakasone in Tokyo today. At the meeting, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze briefed the prime minister on the details of the latest Soviet initiative intended to eliminate nuclear weapons from the earth.

Earlier, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze held talks with Foreign Minister Abe to exchange views on a wide range problems, including those concerning the development of bilateral relations and the international situation.

## IZVESTIYA Reviews Visit

PM191950 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Text] Tokyo, January 18 -- Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, had a conversation with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan, to whom he conveyed a message from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The conversation, which passed in a frank atmosphere, covered some pressing international problems as well as issues of the Soviet-Japanese relationship.

Yasuhiro Nakasone welcomed the new foreign policy proposals of the Soviet Union, which have been set forth in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev and which, the Japanese prime minister said, will be carefully studied. The idea of eliminating nuclear weapons and putting a complete end to nuclear explosions as well as the concrete timetable for implementing the program have aroused much interest in Japan.

The sides expressed themselves in favor of improvements in the world situation and in relations between the USSR and Japan. The importance of a continuous dialogue based on trust and mutual respect was pointed out.

Taking part in the conversation was Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

After the conclusion of the Soviet-Japanese talks Eduard Shevardnadze and Shintaro Abe signed a trade and payments agreement between the USSR and Japan for 1986-90 and a convention between the USSR and Japan for 1986-90 and a convention between the Governments of the USSR and Japan on avoiding double taxation of incomes and exchanged documents renewing the letters of exchange on cultural relations between the two countries.

Eduard Shevardnadze held a reception for top Japanese statesmen and politicians, representatives of the business community and public organizations. Those attending the reception included Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe; Takami Eto, minister of construction; Wataru Hiraizumi, minister of state and head of the Economic Planning Agency; Koichi Kato, chief of the National Defense Agency; Bunsei Sato, minister of posts and telecommunications, and others.

In his speech Eduard Shevardnadze said that the Soviet-Japanese talks which were held marked a step toward improving relations between the USSR and Japan. He said a right and reliable way towards bringing the two countries closer together is that of political dialogue, first of all that on issues of war and peace.

We had an opportunity to see for ourselves that the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has been regarded with great attention in Japan. A realistic global programme for the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons. For an end to the arms race on earth and for the prevention of an arms race in outer space has been set out in the statement. The Soviet Union and Japan could closely cooperate in the accomplishment of this noble task in the interests of their peoples and the interests of world peace.

A number of agreements concerning trade-and-economonic contacts between our two countries were signed during the visit, Eduard Shevardnadze said. This is a serious and important step. The Soviet Union has no reasons for which our countries could not go still further in order to bring the level of Soviet-Japanese trade-and-economic contacts into line with our huge potential which exists in our two countries. We mean in particular, an possibility of elaborating and intergovernmental agreement on the principles of economic cooperation and a long-term programme for the implementation of this agreement, a well as a possibility of setting up an appropriate commission at government level. There is scope for the expansion of scientific and technical contacts, too.

The Soviet Union and Japan can and must live in peace. Yes, we are neighbours for as long as the earth exists. But for the earth to remain in existence the neighbours should jointly take care of that.

During the stay in your country we had an opportunity to meet and converse with workers and engineers, with representatives of business circles and the world of art. Their pronouncements contain one common idea that our two countries should live in concord like good neighbours. This is a unanimous wish of Soviet people, too.

Then Shintaro Abe made a speech. He pointed out that the visit by Eduard Shevardnadze and the Soviet-Japanese talks which have been held were very useful, first of all, from the viewpoint of prospects for further development of relations between the USSR and Japan. In these relations, he said, there are no questions which would be impossible to solve if one strives for that and proceeds from respect for each other's stands.

The minister declared for a continuation of the political dialogue between Japan and the USSR which are neighbours and which play an important role in world politics and in international economic relations.

On January 18 Eduard Shevardnadze had a conversation with Masashi Ishibashi, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP). It was emphasized during the conversation that full elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere and the ridding of mankind of the threat of nuclear war meet the aspirations of all countries and peoples. The package of the new Soviet foreign-policy initiatives, which are contained in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on arms limitation and disarmament matters, is directed towards the attainment of precisely this goal, Eduard Shevardnadze pointed out. Masashi Ishibashi described the proposals contained in the statement as epoch-making and of historic significance.

The two sides declared for an improvement of the political climate in the relations between the USSR and Japan. Masashi Ishibashi stated that the JSP will continue to promote the establishment of truly goodneighbourly relations between the USSR and Japan, which would meet the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the ensurance of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

On the same day Eduard Shevardnadze had a meeting with Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the Central Committee of the Japan Communist Party (JCP).

During the conversation which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere, Eduard Shevardnadze informed Kenji Miyamoto of the country-wide current preparation in the USSR for the 27th Congress of the CPSU and emphasised the invariability of the course of the CPSU and the Soviet state towards the ensurance of universal peace and security of the peoples.

Kenji Miyamoto stated that the Japanese communists welcome the Soviet Union's new foreign-policy proposals which have been put forward in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement. He pointed out that the JCP will continue actively to press for full prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. In this connection the JCP leader emphasised the importance of further deepening cooperation between the two countries in the realisation of the joint statement adopted in December 1984 on talks between the delegations of the CPSU and the JCP.

## Joint Communique Published

PM191658 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

['Joint Soviet-Japanese Communique' -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Jan -- E. A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, USSR foreign affairs minister, was on an official visit to Japan from 15-19 January 1986 at the invitation of the Japanese Government.

During his stay in Tokyo, E.A. Shevardnadze, USSR Foreign Affairs Minister had a conversation with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone. The prime minister reaffirmed the previously extended invitation to M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, to pay an official visit to Japan.

USSR Foreign Affairs Minister, E.A. Shevardnadze, expressed thanks for the invitation.

E.A. Shevardnadze handed Prime Minister Y. Nakasone a note from M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, which contains an invitation to the Japanese Government head to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union.

By way of conducting a regular consultative meeting, E.A. Shevardnadze, USSR foreign affairs minister and Shintaro Abe, Japanese foreign affairs minister, held talks during which questions of Soviet-Japanese relations and international problems of mutual interest were discussed.

The sides stressed that the development of Soviet-Japanese relations upon the basis of the principles of mutual benefit, equality of rights, and noninterference in internal affairs not only meets both countries 'peoples' common interests, but also will make a big contribution to the cause of peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world.

The ministers noted the important significance of the political dialogue between the USSR and Japan's leading officials. They confirmed agreement in this connection on carrying out regular consultations in the future at the foreign affairs minister level at least once a year in Moscow and Tokyo in turn. E.A. Shevardnadze, USSR Foreign Affairs minister invited Japanese Foreign Minister Abe to visit the Soviet Union on an official visit in 1986, and the Japanese foreign minister extended an invitation to the USSR foreign affairs minister to visit Japan in 1987. The invitations were accepted with gratitude on both sides. Specific periods for the visits will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

The ministers positively evaluated the practice of yearly consultations at the deputy foreign minister level and spoke in favor of continuing them. Such regular consultations will take place in Moscow at a time agreed upon by both sides.

In accordance with an accord recorded in the joint Soviet-Japanese declaration of 10 October 1973, the ministers held talks regarding the conclusion of a Soviet-Japanese peace treaty including matters that could make up its content. They agreed to continue them during the next consultative meeting in Moscow.

Both sides expressed an intention to assist the further expansion of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations upon the basis of mutual benefit. The ministers signed an agreement on trade turnover and payments between the USSR and Japan for the period from 1986-1990 and a convention between the USSR and Japanese Governments on avoiding duplicate taxation in relation to taxes on revenue.

It was agreed to increase the level of yearly consultations on trade and economic matters bearing in mind that such a meeting will be held between the USSR deputy foreign trade minister and the Japanese deputy foreign minister in Moscow at a mutually convenient time in 1986.

Taking into account the conclusion of an agreement between the Soviet and Japanese Governments on mutual relations in the sphere of fishing off both countries' shores and an agreement between the two governments on cooperation in the sphere of the fishing industry, the sides agreed to continue to put their efforts into fulfilling them successfully in the future too. In this connection they also spoke in favor of a constructive discussion of all matters connected with fulfilling the mentioned agreements on a mutually beneficial basis considering the two countries' long-term cooperation in the fisheries field.

The ministers exchanged documents on extending the period of validity of letters exchanged on 27 January 1972 on cultural exchanges between the USSR and Japan.

The sides noted the progress attained at talks on concluding a cultural agreement between the Soviet and Japanese Governments and expressed a desire to promote their earliest completion.

In accordance with Article Three of the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet and Japanese Governments, both sides agreed to convene the third session of the Soviet-Japanese commission for scientific and technical cooperation during 1986 at a time convenient for the two sides.

In connection with an appeal from S. Abe, the Japanese foreign affairs minister, regarding visits by Japanese to the sites where their relations are buried, the Soviet side declared that, guided by humanitarian feelings, it will consider this question with due attention.

The ministers noted the great significance of the development of international cooperation in utilizing thermonuclear fusion for peaceful purposes for the benefit of all mankind.

Both sides satisfactorily noted the attainment of an accord between the USSR, Japan, and the United States on a number of measures regarding raising the security of flights in the northern part of the Pacific Ocean and the formulation of measures to implement them.

A frank exchange of views took place between the ministers on the key issues of mutual interest of the contemporary international situation, including the maintenance of peace and disarmament, as well as certain regional problems.

The sides reached a unanimous opinion with regard to the necessity of continuing to promote the strengthening of positive tendencies in the development of the international situation by means of widening the bilateral dialogue on international problems.

The ministers highly appraised the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on the results of the meeting in Geneva between M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and U.S. President R. Reagan between 19 and 21 November 1985, and noted that they regarded it as the start of a dialogue aimed at attaining changes for the better in the international situation.

The sides set out their assessments of the situation developing in the Asian and Pacific Ocean region, and stressed that assisting the Asian and Pacific Ocean Basin countries' own efforts on the basis of respect for their independence will serve the cause of peace and stability in that region.

Both sides positively evaluated the practice of holding consultations on international problems between the USSR and Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministries and agreed that it will be continued.

The sides noted that the talks and meetings which had taken place during the visit to Japan by USSR Foreign Affairs Minister E.A. Shevardnadze had passed in a business-like atmosphere and had been useful for both sides.

## Press Conference, Departure Reported

PM191748 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Visit Concluded"]

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Jan -- E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister has received at the USSR Embassy in Japan T. Araki, mayor of the city of Hiroshima, and H. Motoshima, mayor of the city of Nagasaki.

The mayors of the Japanese cities stated that the people of Japan, who are the only people in the world to have experienced the horrors of atomic bombing, fully desire to prevent any repetition of the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. On behalf of their cities' inhabitants they gave a high assessment of the Soviet government's decision to extend the moratorium on all nuclear explosions and called on other states possessing nuclear weapons, above all the United States, to join in the moratorium as soon as possible.

E.A. Shevardnadze stressed that the Soviet program of eliminating nuclear weapons by the end of this century put forward by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev was in accord with the mood of all the peoples, including the peoples of the Asian continent. Its implementation would also rid the peoples of that part of the globe of the fear of nuclear threat and would raise security in Asia to a qualitatively new level.

E.A. Shevardnadze held a press conference for journalists. Assessing the results of the Soviet-Japanese talks in Tokyo, he stressed that the very fact of restoring political dialogue, which the two sides had agreed would continue, was positive. It can be said that we now have a better idea of each other's stances, and on the broadest range of questions. From this standpoint too a step forward has been made.

Thus it can be said with confidence that both sides have benefited from the talks and only those who would have liked to complicate them have lost out. [sentence as published] The future of our relations is now more optimistic, despite complex questions which exist.

A central place in the talks, E.A. Shevardnadze observed, was occupied by discussion of the major new foreign policy initiatives put forward in CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's Statement, which open up a real path to eliminating nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction by the end of the present century.

The comprehensive, all-embracing program proposed by the Soviet Union has evoked great interest in the world and received extensive support both from governments and the public. One, however, cannot fail to notice that attempts are already being made to erode the substance of our proposals and instill in people's minds skepticism and lack of faith in the attainability of the goals set.

Once more we hear references to the fact that the Soviet Union is allegedly putting prior conditions forward again. It, you see, insists on the United States' renouncing the "star wars" program. For those people who are intent in starting an arms race in a specially dangerous area -- in outer space -- this stance of ours is indeed an obstacle. But it is absurd to talk about eliminating nuclear weapons in combination with the creation [sozdaniye] of new space strike arms which are in no way inferior to nuclear arms and are also conceived as a supplement to the already existing potential of weapons of mass destruction. If we have decided to disarm, arms must be eliminated rather than shifting weapons from the earth into the heavens.

The proposals put forward by M.S. Gorbachev, E.A. Shevardnadze observed, provide a real alternative to the increasingly dangerous arms race, against which a barrier must be erected. To achieve that goal the Soviet Union is ready for broad collaboration with all those who act from a position of reason, good will, and awareness of responsibility for securing for mankind a future without wars or weapons.

E.A. Shevardnadze then answered journalists' questions.

E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, today left Tokyo after the completion of his official visit.

He was seen off at Haneda Airport, which was decked with the Soviet and Japanese state flags, by the following: S. Abe, Japanese foreign minister; Y. Katori, Japanese ambassador to the USSR; P.A. Abrasimov, USSR ambassador to Japan; and the heads of the diplomatic missions of socialist and other friendly countries accredited to Japan.

REPORTAGE ON SHEVARDNADZE VISIT TO DPRK

Leaders Greet Shevardnadze

LD192300 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Special Correspondent Valeriy Korzin report from the DPRK]

[Text] Today, at the invitation of the central committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WKP] and Government of the DPRK, Eduard Amvrosyevich Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Pyongyang on an official friendly visit. At the steps of the airplane, he was met by Pak Songchol, member of the WKP Central Committee Politburo and vice president of the republic; Kim Yong-nam, member of the WKP Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the Administrative Council, DPRK minister of foreign affiars; Kim Pok-sin, candidate member of the WKP Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the DPRK Administrative Council; and other officials. The working people of the capital greeted the guests from Moscow warmly and cordially. The Soviet foreign minister's visit is yet another confirmation of the friendship which is growing year by year between the Soviet Union and the DPRK.

Much of what the DPRK now has to be proud of was possible thanks to the friendly assistance from our country. Dozens of national economic projects have been built with the Soviet Union's help, and they have formed the foundation of power engineering, metallurgy, and machinebuilding. Expansion and deepening of mutual aid is also envisaged by the intergovernmental agreement signed at the end of last year on economic and technical cooperation. This is a program of peaceful construction.

But, just next door in the south of the peninsula, the saber-rattling continues. The United States, propping up the dictatorial regime of Chon Tu Hwan, is trying to use it as a strike force for implementing its own militaristic plans in the region. The latest armaments are being sent there from across the ocean. More than 40,000 U.S. soldiers are located at the bases made available to them. Maneuvers are held in which the South Korean and U.S. work out joint combat operations. It is no secret against whom all these militaristic preparations in the vicinity of the frontiers of the DPRK and USSR are aimed. But, the DPRK knows well that a reliable guarantee of its independence and security is the cohesion with the socialist countries and the Soviet Union.

Meeting with Kim Yong-nam

LD201924 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1618 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Pyongyang, 20 (TASS) -- Talks took place today here between E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of foreign affairs, who is in the DPRK on an official friendly visit, and Kim Yong-nam, member of the Workers' Party of Korea [WKP] Central Committee vice premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, PDRK minister of foreign affairs.

Taking part in the talks were: from the Soviet side - M.S. Kapitsa, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; N.M. Shubnikov, ambassador of the USSR to the DPRK; I.A. Rogachev, member of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; from the DPRK side Kim Hyong-rul, DPRK vice minister of foreign affairs, Kwon Hui-kyong ambassador of the DPRK to the USSR, Ko Sen-sun, adviser to the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Pak Hyong-bo, department director in the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the talks, which passed in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and mutual understanding, a wide range of questions concerning Soviet-Korean relations was considered, and a number of topical international problems of mutual interest were discussed.

The ministers informed one another of the course of the social and economic development of the two countries. E.A. Shevardnadze described the active preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress and of the nationwide support for the party line aimed at perfecting developed socialism and at achieving a qualitatively new condition of Soviet society.

The participants in the talks expressed satisfaction with the dynamic advancing development of the traditional relations between the USSR and the DPRK, based on the unshakeable principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, in accordance with the accords reached at the summit talks in Moscow in May 1984. Mutual determination was again stated to continue to expand and strengthen bilateral ties on the basis of the treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between the USSR and the DPRK.

In the course of the talks a coincidence of views on the contemporary situation in the world, and on ways of approaching a solution to the key international problems, was demonstrated. The ministers expressed a common conviction that the causes of the dangerous aggravation of the international situation in recent years lie in the policies of imperialist circles which aspire to confrontation and to military superiority.

E.A. Shevardnadze singled out in particular the significance of the new foreign policy initiatives put forward in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on 15 January, which are a concrete and developed plan of purposeful actions for the removal of the most serious threat which looms today over mankind -- the danger of nuclear war. Realization of the wide-scale complex of Soviet peace initiatives would allow the liberation of earth from nuclear weapons to be achieved before the end of the present century.

Kim Yong-nam, on behalf of the leadership of the DPRK, expressed full support for the new Soviet peace initiatives which correspond to the interests of all countries and peoples.

E.A. Shevardnadze and Kim Yong-nam devoted particular attention to issues connected with the further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the socialist countries, and of their solidarity with nonaligned states and with antiwar democratic movements in the struggle for peace and for stopping the arms race and not allowing it to be transferred into space. In this connection the significance of the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan in Geneva was stressed, and the importance of speedily implementing the accords reached at it.

The Korean side confirmed its support for the peaceloving foreign policy of the Soviet state which is directed at contributing to the maximum degree to improving the international climate, and toward the total removal of the threat of nuclear war. The sides expressed their concern at the existence of hotbeds of tension in various regions of the world and spoke in favor of the peaceful political settlement of existing conflicts. In this context they noted the great importance of the single-minded peace initiatives of a number of socialist and nonaligned states in Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin, as well as the need to unite their efforts in the struggle to strengthen security and to establish peaceful cooperation among the peoples of that region. E.A. Shevardnadze stated that the Soviet Union will continue to support the course of the KWP and the Government of the DPRK which is directed toward consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula and toward the peaceful and democratic unification of Korea.

The ministers expressed confidence that the talks which took place will serve the further strengthening of the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK, the extension of cooperation between the two countries in the international arena as well as the deepening of mutual understanding between the Soviet and Korean peoples.

## Shevardnadze Addresses Reception

LD201933 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Pyongyang, January 20 TASS -- Socialism's peaceful plans can be fulfilled only in conditions of lasting peace. Such a peace will become a possibility for all the peoples if the level of military confrontation is drastically reduced, if the arms race on earth is stopped and reversed and if we prevent it from being spread to outer space. It was stated by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Eduard Shevardnadze, who is on an official friendly visit in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. He spoke today at a reception held in his honour by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the PDRK.

Being guided by this, by concern for peace and the destiny of mankind, Eduard Shevardnadze went on, the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev came out with a programme outlining a clear-cut and consistent set of measures to completely rid the earth of all types of nuclear and chemical weapons before the end of the present millennium. This initiative cannot but be consonant with the aspiration of the peoples of Asia as well for whom the problems of peace and security are no less urgent than for the peoples of Europe because big stockpiles of nuclear arms have been accumulated in this region and they threaten every country located here, and not only here.

The Soviet Union, Eduard Shevardnadze noted further, consistently comes out for peace and stability in the Asia continent, for the peaceful cooperation of all of its countries but it will be forced to carry out appropriate measures that would safeguard its own security and the security of its allies and friends from the threat that is being prepared in the Far East.

It is important for the Asian countries themselves to tackle the drafting of measures ensuring stability and peace in the region, as it is provided for by the Soviet proposal on the comprehensive approcah to security problems in Asia.

The importance of implmenting this initiative, just as of our proposal on confidence-building measures in the Far East, is being increasingly realised among Asian countries.

Our country supports and is prepared most closely to cooperate with other socialist countries that have set forth quite a number of constructive ideas the implmentation of which would facilitate the improvement of the political climate in the continent and throughout the world. I refer to the DPRK's initiative concerning the improvement of the situation in the Korean peninsula and turning it into a nuclear-free zone.

We regard as very topical also the proposal by the Mongolian People's Republic for Asian and Pacific countries to sign a treaty on mutural non-aggression and non-use of force, to conduct a meeting of members of parliament of socialist Asian states on the subject "peace and security in the region".

Organically in line with the single concept of peace on the Asian continent are the steps taken by the government and people of Afghanistan to achieve a political settlement of the situation around their country.

The undeclared war against the DRA continues to flare, bringing tears and grief. The known circles lavishly pour fuel on the flames just to preserve the sharp situation around Afghanistan. We are for a political settlement of questions connected with Afghanistan but, obviously, it must be preceded by a renunciation of outside interference into the internal affairs of Afghanistan, by reliable guarantees that it will not be resumed.

We are prepared to give the most active assistance to the initiative of the Indochina countries directed at the establishment of a zone of peace, stability and cooperation in that region.

We appreciate the well-considered and weighed peace actions of non-aligned India which well deserves her reputation of a universally respected champion of peace. Similar support is enjoyed also by the proposals set forth by Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Tanzania and Sweden jointly with India. The voice of these six countries sounds weightily in questions of liquidating nuclear arms and stopping nuclear weapon tests.

The five principles of peaceful coexistence and the ten principles of Bandung, worked out by Asian states, retain their importance.

As you see, Eduard Shevardnadze said, real preconditions exist for turning Asia into a continent of lasting peace, friendship and genuine goodneighbourliness. The Soviet Union will further make its contribution to this historic cause. It is exactly in this context that we view our recent talks with Japanese statesmen.

A normalisation and improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations would undoubtedly play a substantial positive role in strengthening Asian security. Both the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic, as neighbours and allies of the DPRK, are interested in the liquidation of tension on the Korean peninsula.

We regard the Korean question as a complex and acute international problem requiring speediest solution. The unification of Korea, as we see it, is first of all a business of the Korean people itself. Interference by external forces here is unlawful and immoral. A withdrawal of American troops from the south of the Korean peninsula would facilitate the country's unification. The constructive proposal to create a democratic confederative republic of Korea set forth by Kim Il-song the peaceful initiatives of the DPRK directed at speeding up a peaceful, democratic unification of Korea, at easing military confrontation on the Korean peninsula, developing a broad dialogue between the two parts of Korea and at transition from an unstable armistice to a lasting peace could serve as a good basis for solving the Korean problem. The Soviet Union has always been on the side of the fraternal Korean people in its struggle for national unity and always will be on its side, Eduard Shevardnadze stressed.

## Kim Yong-nam Speech Reported

LD202220 Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Pyongyang, January 20 TASS -- The Soviet Union is working vigorously to prevent the arms race on earth and in space, and to avert the threat of nuclear war, said Kim Yong-nam, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, deputy premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the D.P.R.K.

He spoke at a reception held by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the D.P.R.K. today in honor of Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., who is now staying here on an official friendly visit.

Kim Yong-nam stressed that the consistent peaceful policy of the U.S.S.R. found its vivid manifestation in its stand at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva. This marked the beginning of improvement in international relations. After the Geneva meeting the U.S.S.R. continues to make concrete and sincere efforts to safeguard peace. These include measures to reduce medium-range nuclear missiles and the moratorium on nuclear blasts. Mikhail Gorbachev's statement announces the decision of the U.S.S.R. to extend unilaterally that moratorium by another three months and formulates a program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons on earth.

The U.S.S.R., Kim Yong-nam went on to say, is making efforts to promote goodneighborly relations between countries, to ensure peace and security not only in Europe, but in Asia as well. We actively support and highly value the consistent peaceful steps and initiatives of the U.S.S.R. aimed at safeguarding peace in Europe and the world over, and also the latest Soviet proposals which call for joint efforts of Asian and Pacific states to lessen tensions in that region. At present Asia is one of the most dangerous regions where a new war can break out. Such a war can break out in the Korean peninsula where a very tense situation has taken shape as a result of unending aggressive scheming of American imperialists and South Korean puppets.

In the framework of its aggressive global strategy the United States is concentrating a huge armed force in the region and perseveringly trying to turn South Korea into the main nuclear outpost against the DPRK and other socialist countries, step up the remilitarization of Japan and complete the forging of a tripartite military alliance involving also Japan and South Korea.

It is in this tense situation, Kim Yong-nam said, that the Korean people are energetically building socialism and reliably protecting the eastern outpost of socialism. The DPRK is making active efforts to remove the war danger in the Korean Peninsula and solve the reunification issues peacefully. This is strikingly manifested in its proposals for creating a Democratic Confederative Republic of Korea and holding tripartite talks and broad dialogue between North and South. As a highly important measure to lessen tension in the Korean Peninsula and create a favorable situation for North-South dialogue the government of the DPRK has decided not to hold from February 1, 1986, major military maneuvers and during the days of North-South dialogue to terminate all military exercises altogether. It has suggested that the United States and the South Korean authorities respond to this initiative.

But Washington and Seoul have again decided to stage large-scale joint military maneuvers codenamed Team Spirit '86. This is an open challenge to our peace initiatives and a criminal attempt to hinder dialogue and exacerbate tension.

As part of implementing the positive accords reached at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva the United States should open dialogue with the DPRK and accept our proposal for the withdrawal of its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea and for making the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, Kim Yong-nam said.

## Shevardnadze Places Wreaths

LD210022 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today, paying tribute to the memory and respects to the fallen strugglers for the happiness and independence of the Korean people, Comrade Shevardnadze laid a wreath at the (Tensonsan) cemetery of revolutionaries. Comrade Shevardnadze laid a wreath also at the monument on the summit of (Muranbon) hill in honor of the Soviet liberator-soldiers.

## Commentary on Visit

SK200505 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Station commentator (Parfeonov) commentary]

[Text] Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Political Bureau and USSR foreign minister, will begin his official goodwill visit to the DPRK today. In this connection, station commentator (Parfeonov) comments as follows:

Comrade Shevardnadze's visit to the DPRK at the invitation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the DPRK Government constitutes an important milestone in the development of the traditional relations of friendship between the Soviet Union and Korea.

Recently, both sides have more actively made efforts to thoroughly and completely realize the agreement reached at the summit talks held during the visit to the Soviet Union in May 1984 by a DPRK party and state delegation led by Comrade Kim Il-song.

Last year mutual relations between the two parties and the two governments were further strengthened. The peoples of the two countries splendidly celebrated the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Korea from the Japanese colonial rule as a joint festive event.

The recent visit of Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council of the DPRK, to the Soviet Union contributed to further developing and enriching the reciprocal trade and economic relations between the two countries.

The cooperation between the Soviet Union and the DPRK in the international area, too, has been developed in a very effective way. The visit to the Soviet Union last April by Comrade Kim Yong-nam, foreign minister of the DPRK, was of important significance. In a joint communique issued after the completion of his visit, the two countries reaffirmed their aspiration to invariably pursue a peace policy and to launch a counter-attack against the imperialists maneuvers.

Comrade Shevardnadze's visit to the DPRK on this occasion will contribute to further developing and completing such cooperation between the two countries. The present complicated international situation demands that the cooperation of the socialist countries be further strengthened.

The Soviet Union and the DPRK coincide with each other on the issue of preventing a nuclear war and opposing the militarization of space. Both sides share the same view that the imperialist countries line of seeking military superiority over socialism is the root cause of aggravating tension in the world.

The Korean side has expressed invarible solidarity with the Soviet Union's line [word indistinct] the alleviation of tension and suspending military confrontation on a global or regional scale.

The DPRK has regarded the Soviet-U.S. summit talks held in Geneva last November as an important event in easing the international situation and in consolidating peace in the world.

The Soviet Union and the DPRK have the same stand toward the situation in Asia, the Pacific, and the Far East and have made all efforts to resolve it.

The U.S. acceleration of war preparations in these regions, the strengthening of militarism in Japan, the U.S. efforts to drag South Korea in to its military and strategic maneuvers, and the attempt to form a new military alliance among Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul have been bitterly condemned.

The two countries have made all possible efforts for peace and stability in Asia and for cooperation among the Asian countries. The plan for overall security in Asia advanced by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is directed precisely at this. The DPRK's proposals for easing the situation on the Korean peninsula and for reducing it to a nuclear-free peace zone accord with this goal. These constructive initiatives of the DPRK won high assessment again in the statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee issued on 15 January 1986.

The Soviet Union has regarded the Korean question as a complicated and sharp question which should be resolved rapidly. The Soviet Union has alway stressed that the Korean question should be resolved through the Korean peoples' own strength without the intervention of foreign forces. Toward this end, basic obstacles, including the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea, should be removed.

The DPRK proposals for replacing the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, for holding North-South parliamentary talks, for the announcement of a nonaggression declaration between the North and South, and for holding other North-South dialogues will become an adequate foundation for the resolution of the Korean question. In an effort to make it possible for the recent North-South contacts in various fields to be held in a favorable and constructive atmosphere, the DPRK Government has unilaterally decided that it will not stage large-scale military exercises, beginning in February.

The Soviet Union regards this initiative as new evidence of the peace-loving foreign policy of the DPRK. The Soviet Union has always stood and will stand at the side of the fraternal Korean people in the struggle for their national reunification.

The Soviet people firmly believe that the visit to the DPRK of Comrade Shevardnadze will contribute to further consolidating the mutural ties between the two countries and to cooperation in the foreign policies of the Soviet Union and Korea. Comrade Shevardnadze's visit to the DPRK on this occasion will contribute to further consolidating the relations of friendship between the CPSU and the Workers' Party of Korea and between the Soviet Union and the DPRK on the basis of the firm principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

## AUSTRALIA REFUSES TO JOIN IN TRADE EMBARGO ON LIBYA

LD201354 Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Canberra, January 20 TASS -- Australia's Government refuses to join the Washington-announced embargo on trade with Libya, said Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden. This decision was taken at the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers, which discussed Australia's stand towards the Washington-launched anti-Libyan campaign. Earlier, U.S. President Ronald Reagan sent a message to Australia's Prime Minister Robert Hawke, urging him to support the U.S. Administration-introduced economic and political sanctions against Libya. William Hayden said Australia would not participate in Washington-announced anti-Libyan actions, which did not get support in the world.

## AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PRAISES GORBACHEV INITIATIVE

LD181329 Moscow TASS in English 0945 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Canberra, January 18 TASS -- Commenting on the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, William Hayden, Australia's foreign minister, said that Australia welcomes the extension by the Soviet Union of the moratorium on nuclear testing.

He stressed in a statement for the press that Australia's aim remains an agreement on a full ban on nuclear testing, including formal contractual commitments, under which all nuclear testing in all media would be ended for ever. Australia calls for talks on reaching such an agreement.

The plan proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev, which provides for total nuclear disarmament by the end of this century, William Hayden pointed out, is of tremendous interest for Australia and will be carefully studied.

## LAO PRESIDENT CITED ON GORBACHEV ARMS PROPOSALS

LD200949 Moscow TASS in English 0844 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Vientiane January 20 TASS -- The latest statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev is of vital importance for the destinies of all peoples on earth. It reflects the good will and tireless efforts by the Soviet Union to eliminate the threat of nuclear war and improve the international situation, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, President of Laos Souphanouvong has stressed in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

The Laotian leader stressed the timely and realistic character of the Soviet Union's proposal for a step-by-step reduction and elimination of nuclear armaments by the year 2000, prevention of the militarization of outer space and total destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles. The extension of the Soviet unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing proves the Soviet Union's sincere striving to end the arms race.

The Laotian people, the president said, call on the U.S. government to give a constructive response to the latest Soviet initiatives in the interests of lessening international tension, achieving mutual trust and ensuring a lasting peace on earth. The escalation of the arms race and its spread into outer space may result in the death of civilization.

Mikhail Gorbachev's statement fully coincides with the aspirations of the peoples on earth, is vivid manifestation of the USSR's Leninist peaceful foreign policy, Souphanouvong stressed.

U.S.-THAI EXERCISES NEAR CAMBODIAN BORDER CRITICIZED

BK171511 Moscow in Thai to Thailand 1100 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Unattributed commentary: "Tension on the Thai-Cambodian Border"]

[Text] The United States and Thailand reportedly plan to hold a joint military exercise, code-named Cobra Gold 86, the significance of which is that the site of the maneuver is to be moved close to the Cambodian border, in Chanthaburi and Trat provinces. This leaves one with the feeling that the exercise will not be just a drill in joint combat operations, but a show of force to frighten Cambodia. Such a militaristic [illegible] naturally would not help lessen tension along the Thai-Cambodian common border.

If one listens to U.S. and Thai sources, one cannot help but think that this exercise is being held to cope with threats to Thailand's security from Vietnam and Cambodia. There have been rumors about incursions into Thailand by Vietnamese soldiers and about land-mines containing toxic gas planted by Vietnamese soldiers -- who knows how -- inside Thailand's territory. This kind of slander is clearly designed to incite division, say both Thai and western correspondents who are neutral. These critics also note that the camps of Pol Pot and other Cambodian refugee groups are on Thai territory. The gunmen who take refuge in those camps occasionally attack Cambodian villages, sending villagers into a panic. Thai authorities are providing facilities for these gunmen, while the United States is supplying them with weapons, both directly and indirectly. The United States approved $5 million in the next fiscal year for support to these gunmen. Apparently a bigger sum is to be funneled through the CIA, which is subverting Cambodian stability. The question then is: Who in fact is really responsible for the tension on the Thai-Cambodian border? There is no need to answer that.

The change of venue for the joint exercise, code-named Cobra Gold 86, to the proximity of the Cambodian border is clearly understood. According to critics, the joint exercise is another step in the strengthening of U.S.-Thai military ties. Let us look a little ways back. In early October last year, the United States and Thailand signed an agreement on an emergency military aid plan, under which the United States is to promptly provide Thailand with weapons, including the latest F-16 fighter-bombers, personnel carriers, and cannons. Judging from the types and the amount of those weapons to be supplied to Thailand, one can see that they are much more than what Thailand needs for self-defense. This leaves one feeling that the United States is using the Cambodian issue and the propaganda about Vietnamese threats to influence Thailand into making a close commitment to U.S. military activities.

We should add that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Paul Wolfowitz and Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet Admiral James Lyons both visited Thailand recently. Bangkok papers reported that, during their visit, both sides discussed the setting up of U.S. arsenals in Thailand, and they prepared a detailed plan of the joint exercise. It seems that it was during such a meeting that both sides agreed on moving the venue of Cobra Gold 86 to the area near Cambodia.

Greater involvement by the United States in the problem along the Thai-Cambodian border poses a bigger threat to regional stability. It is clear that the policy of confrontation between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries imposed by the outsiders can never constructively solve the existing problem. The method that looks most likely to effectively solve the problem lies in the proposal put forth by the three Indochinese countries -- that is, the dialogue between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries. Part of the proposal is aimed at solving the so-called Cambodian problem. The leaders of the Indochinese countries reaffirmed that the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia will be completed by the year 2000.

But the withdrawal could be done by 1987 if the Cambodian problem is settled through political means in the near future. The Cambodian Government has expressed its willingness to hold talks with the various persons and groups representing the Cambodian refugees if the political role of Pol Pot is terminated. There is no question that such a proposal, once implemented, would fundamentally transform the situation along the Thai-Cambodian border, making it a border of friendship and good-neighborliness in conformity with the wishes of the people of both countries.

## U.S.,UK SPY ROLE IN HONG KONG, PHILIPPINES NOTED

LD171905 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2002 GMT 15 Jan 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] This is Hong Kong. [video shows street scenes] Recently a delegation of British Labor Parliamentarians was there, having discovered that Great Britain maintains a thoroughly hush-hush intelligence installation there engaged in espionage activity against, in particular, China. This was reported by London THE SUNDAY TIMES. Well, since Britain has agreed to return Hong Kong to China in 1997, the British parliamentarians became concerned, and decided to make inquiries at the House of Commons about the fate of the spy center, which, incidentally, also serves U.S. intelligence. However, they were not talking about its liquidation, which is strenuously opposed by Washington, but only about moving the installation to some other country. Referring to U.S. military sources in Hong Kong, the British press reported that the intelligence center could be moved for example, to the Philippines. [video shows complex of aerials and dishes; U.S. building with dish on top]

And now to the Philippines. There, as the presidential elections planned for 7 February approach, shameless interference by the United States in the course of the election campaign is being stepped up. The vice-president of the Workers' Party of the Philippines (Pilago Villiegos) yesterday told how, in striving to influence the outcome of the elections, U.S. representatives are not averse to any methods, including subversive activity, which CIA employees are accustomed to carrying out. Naturally, all this arouses indignation among the people of the Philippines, who are calling for an end to U.S. interference in the internal affairs of their country.

## SOVIET-LAO COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD180956 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Report by correspondent V. Gaydamovich from Vientiane; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As has been already reported, the talks in Vientiane on the coordination of state plans between the Soviet Union and Laos for the period 1986-90 have ended. The main areas for Soviet-Laotian economic cooperation have been coordinated for the current 5-year period and in certain spheres for a longer period. The planned volume of trade turnover will increase by over 50 percent compared with the previous 5-year period. The volume of economic and technical assistance that the Soviet Union is giving in the development of transport and communications, agriculture, health care, education, training of national cadres is being considerably increased. A protocol reflecting the results of the work that was done was signed by Comrade Talyzin and by Sali Vonhkhamsao, secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and chairman of the Planning Commission. Comrade Talyzin was received by Kaysone Phomvihan. Sincere gratitude was expressed for the great assistance that the Soviet Union is extending to Lao.

## LEADERS, OFFICIALS CITED ON GORBACHEV PROPOSALS

### IZVESTIYA Cites Jaruzelski

PM171337 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Very Important Document of the Present Day"]

[Text] Warsaw, 16 Jan -- The bold, constructive initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union serve as a reliable platform for maintaining peace and building the foundations of a secure future for the world, W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, has said.

Speaking at a meeting with the heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Poland, he stressed that Poland supports any realistic trend in present-day international relations aimed at detente and the consolidation of international security. This approach has had and continues to have fundamental importance for Poland's foreign policy. At the same time Poland is the natural adversary of those forces which want to reverse what is irreversible. The Polish state's foreign policy line is firm and consistent and is aimed at consolidating fraternal allied ties with the socialist community and developing countries.

We are firmly convinced, the speaker noted, that man's salvation from nuclear catastrophe can only be a common matter based on respect for sovereignty and mutual understanding. At the same time the dangers remain for peace and the destiny of all mankind. The arms race is not easing and the threat of its extension to space is becoming a real one. There are local conflicts, a policy of pressure and threats and interference in the internal affairs of peoples and states.

### Congress Studies Proposals

LD172118 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Warsaw, January 17 TASS -- Calls for curbing the arms race and preventing nuclear war are being made from the rostrum of the congress of workers in Science and Culture in Defence of a Peaceful Future of the World, which opened here on Thursday. Touching upon the Soviet Union-proposed programme of full liquidation of nuclear weapons in the world in the next 15 years, president of the Pugwash movement, Nobel Prize Laureate Dorothy Hodgkin has emphasised that scientists are bound to play a major role in the struggle for consolidation of peace.

President of the World Peace Council Romesh Chandra has characterised Mikhail Gorbachev's statement as an exceedingly important initiative aimed at liquidating the nuclear weapons by the year 2000. Romesh Chandra called upon all to comprehensively support the Soviet programme of liquidation of nuclear weapons and said that termination of nuclear weapons tests was now the key issue. The Soviet Union has already declared the extension of the moratorium on tests of nuclear weapons. Thus, one nuclear power now agrees to disarmament. It is necessary to convince other nuclear powers that it is expedient to take such a step.

In his speech head of the Soviet delegation composer Tikhon Khrennikov has said: "Everyone of us becomes increasingly aware that the destinies of peace are now decided not only by politicians and military men. Each person can and even must participate in their decision. And this perhaps particularly concerns workers in science and culture.

Touching upon the idea of establishing an international public centre to combat moral terrorism, to protect the mainstays of civilisation, mankind's moral values, to protect culture from contamination with "Cold War" venom, he said: "In the long run such an organisation could elaborate quite definite norms that would promote internationalist cultural exchange and hamper imperialist expansion in culture."

Tikhon Khrennikov has emphasised that now there is no reasonable alternative to the principle of peaceful coexistence: "In the Soviet Union this is realised by all," he said.

The congress is receiving messages from statesmen and politicians. Messages were sent by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, UNESCO General Director Amadou Mahtar M'bow, leaders of Argentina, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, GDR, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, Vietnam, other countries.

## Honecker Praises Program

LD181333 Moscow TASS in English 2049 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Berlin, January 17 TASS -- A program for the complete and universal elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, formulated in a statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, offers an historic chance to achieve a turn for the better in Europe and all over the world, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the Council of State of the GDR, said here today at his meeting with Marian Orzechowski, an alternate member of the Politbureau of the PUWP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of Poland, who is paying an official visit to the GDR.

The latest Soviet peace initiative, the GDR leader stressed, reflects the Soviet Union's consistent striving to translate into practice the accords formulated in the joint Soviet-American statement in Geneva. As a result of their implementation, mankind would no longer be a hostage to nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Erich Honecker and Marian Orzechowski noted the great importance of strengthening the alliance with the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community in the struggle for the comprehensive strengthening of socialism and peace.

## GDR Disarmament Official Cited

LD172338 Moscow TASS in English 2238 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Geneva, January 17 TASS -- The new Soviet initiatives advanced by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his statement, are of "historic significance", Doctor Harald Rose, the G.D.R.'s permanent representative to the U.N. office and international organisations in Geneva and head of the Republic's delegation to the conference on disarmament, said here today. He told a TASS correspondent that "the Soviet Union has shown a workable way to rid mankind of the threat of a nuclear disaster. The initiatives set an example for the manner in which the 'spirit of Geneva' can be translated into practical deeds".

We are impressed with the boldness, the logical consistency and the sense of realism pervading the all-embracing programme advanced in an effort to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the year 2000", the G.D.R.'s representative said.

"The delegation of the German Democratic Republic is thoroughly convinced that the fresh Soviet initiatives will have a crucial impact on and give impetus to the Geneva conference on disarmament. They have particular relevance to the task of the conference to formulate international agreements on the cessation of all nuclear weapons testing, on the complete elimination of chemical weapons and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space. It is now up to the other side to demonstate readiness for accomodation so that the multilateral body charged with negotiating about disarmament may overcome the many years of standstill and make an effective contribution to the maintenance of peace."

## Bulgarian Foreign Minister Quoted

LD201521 Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Sofia, January 20 TASS -- "The latest statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev is an integral programme for a radical improvement of the international situation," member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Foreign Affairs Minister of Bulgaria Petur Mladenov has declared.

He pointed out in an interview with TASS correspondent Vladimir Abrosimov that the Soviet leader's statement will leave a deep impression on international life. The document is viewed as a peace manifesto. What the USSR suggests is, in fact, a logical continuation and development of its principled peaceful policy. Mikhail Gorbachev's statement contains a complex of new constructive and realistic initiatives with a view to resolving the most important and topical problems of the time -- ridding the world of nuclear and chemical weapons in the conditions of the non-militarization of space. The Soviet initiatives are no declaratory statements. These are concrete proposals geared to concrete dates. A step-by-step solution of problems within a definite, visible period attests to the sense of political responsibility to peoples all over the world.

Mikhail Gorbachev's statement not only offers an extensive platform for future actions in the name of peace. It also contains a rather essential element -- the extension of its moratorium on all nuclear blasts, which attests to the unity of words and deeds of the Soviet Union.

The Bulgarian people and government, Petur Mladenov pointed out, express firm support for new Soviet initiatives. Bulgaria will continue to pursue a principled peaceful policy coordinated between all members of the socialist community. "Consistent struggle for implementing proposals for turning the Balkans into a zone free from nuclear and chemical weapons, the proposals which are in full accordance with the spirit of the Soviet statement, is our concrete contribution."

## FRENCH TRADE DELEGATION HOLDS TALK IN MOSCOW

### Commission Begins Work

LD171428 Moscow TASS in E glish 2133 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 16 TASS -- The stepping up and expansion of economic ties between the USSR and France, the perfection of the structure of foreign trade, such are some of the matters being discussed by the 20th session of the standing mixed Soviet-French commission that started working here today. The Soviet side is headed by USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov. The French delegation is headed by Edith Cresson, France's minister for the redeployment of the industry and foreign trade.

A large group of French businessmen also arrived in the USSR in connection with the commission's work. Many of them already have durable commercial ties with organisations in the USSR. There are businessmen, who would like to offer their goods for sale on the Soviet market for the first time. The development of cooperation between the USSR and France meets the vital interests of both countries. Therefore, one of the elements of this cooperation, foreign trade, is developing dynamically. In ten years that preceded the visit of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev to France in October 1985, the volume of trade went up four-fold and it amounted to 4.2 billion roubles in 1984.

Soviet-French cooperation intensified in the past year. A number of contracts for the delivery of equipment to the Soviet Union to a sum of about five billion French francs was concluded that year. This is equipment for the second section of the Astrakhan gas refinery and for gas fields of that deposit, a line for the production of cardboard containers, welding, electronic and other equipment.

Negotiations are now under way about cooperation in the oil and gas industry, chemistry, metallurgy, construction, modernisation of the light industry. The successful conclusion of these talks can be promoted by such elements as competitiveness in technical and financial aspects, guarantee of precise observance of the terms of contracts, lack of obstacles to their implementation. This precisely can serve as a basis for long-term commercial ties of French firms and organisations with Soviet foreign trade associations.

### Aristov Greets Cresson

PM171031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ministers' Meeting"]

[Text] A meeting took place in Moscow 16 January between Foreign Trade Minister B.I. Aristov and E. Cresson, French minister of foreign trade and industrial redeployment, and leaders of French firms who have come to Moscow for the 20th session of the Soviet-French permanent joint intergovernmental commission (the "Grand Commission").

## Cresson, Ryzhkov Comment

LD171414 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Meeting in the Kremlin"]

[Text] N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin 17 January E. Cresson, chairman of the French side of the Permanent Mixed Soviet-French "Grand" Commission and French minister of industrial redeployment and foreign trade, who is in the Soviet Union in connection with the holding of the jubilee 20th session of the commission.

There was an exchange of views on a number of questions of expanding and deepening bilateral Soviet-French cooperation in light of the implementation of the accords reached during the summit-level talks in Paris in October 1985, and also on certain aspects of the international situation.

Nikolay Ryzhkov has directed Edith Cresson's attention to the main points of the statement of January 15 by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, expressing the Soviet Union's determination to do everything in its power to prevent nuclear war and to preserve world civilisation.

He stressed that the new Soviet program provides for a stage-by-stage total worldwide elimination of nuclear weapons by the year of 2000 on the condition that the development of space strike weapons be banned. It is based on the principle of equal security for all, makes it possible to start a real process of disarmament and reflects the deep hope not only of the Soviet people, but also of the peoples of all continents for peace and security. Hope is expressed in the Soviet Union that France and other states of the world will not stand aloof from the resolution of these cardinal tasks of worldwide significance.

Touching upon the bilateral Soviet-French relations, Nikolay Ryzhkov pointed out that their all-around development is our country's fundamental course and an important factor in strengthening stability and organizing cooperation among states on the European Continent and throughout the world.

The Soviet Union favors further strengthening economic, trade, and scientific-technical relations with France on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and correspondence with the requirements of the times.

A positive evaluation has been given of the results of the current session of the Soviet-French "Grand" commission, which discussed a number of issues of long-term cooperation of great economic significance for both countries.

On her part, Edith Cresson pointed out the significance of the Soviet-French summit level accords on a further development of cooperation between the two countries and expressed the willingness of the French side to broaden fruitful exchanges on a mutually beneficial and balanced basis. She has given a positive evaluation of the efforts of both sides in that direction and pointed out in that connection the large amount of work accomplished in the course of the current session of the joint Soviet-French commission.

Present at the conversation were: On the Soviet side -- B.I. Aristov, minister of foreign trade; N.D. Komarov, first deputy minister of foreign trade; Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR ambassador to France; and K.K. Bakhtov, USSR trade representative in France; on the French side -- B.-B. Raimond, French ambassador to the USSR; D. (Ferrero), chief of the cabinet of ministers; and J. Vidal, (F. Plezan), and (F. Yurgensen), departmental directors in the Ministry of Industrial Redeployment and the Ministry of External Relations.

## Arkhipov Receives Cresson

LD171802 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 17 TASS -- Ivan Arkhipov, the first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received today Edith Cresson, the French minister for the redeployment of the industry and foreign trade, and had a conversation with her on the state of and prospects for the development of Soviet-French commercial and economic relations.

On the same day, Edith Cresson was received by Vsevolod Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Agro-Industrial Committee of the USSR. Some questions of economic, scientific and technological cooperation in the sphere of agriculture and other branches of the agro-industrial complex have been discussed.

USSR Ambassador to France Yuliy Vorontsov and the French Ambassador to the USSR Jean-Bernard Raimond took part in the conversations.

Concrete questions of the development of cooperation of the two countries in various branches of the agro-industrial complex were discussed during a conversation between Vsevolod Murakhovskiy and president of the French firm "Interagra" Jean-Baptiste Doumeng.

## Vremya Interviews Cresson

LD172346 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The signing of the final documents of the 20th session of the standing Soviet-French mixed commission took place in Moscow today. The documents were signed by Comrade Aristov, USSR minister of foreign trade; and by Edith Cresson, the French minister of industrial redeployment and foreign trade.

In an interview given a "Vremya" correspondent Edith Cresson said:

[Begin Cresson video recording in French with superimposed Russian translation] The latest proposals by Mr Gorbachev on disarmament problems are being carefully studied by the French Government. However, it is already clear that the planned process of international detente, in the common context of which these proposals are being received, is creating more favorable prospects for the development of extensive trade, economic and technological cooperation, including between our two countries. This applies equally to Soviet-French links in the field of health care, culture and science.

We perceived with great satisfaction the fact that during his visit to France Mr Gorbachev, together with political problems, paid much attention to discussing with French leaders questions relating to the development of French-Soviet trade and economic cooperation.

I am pleased to note that this point of view is being given more and more real substance. Indeed this has been confirmed by my present meetings and conversations with many Soviet leaders. [end recording]

FRENCH GOVERNMENT EXPECTS RESULTS FROM GENEVA

LD171315 Moscow TASS in English 1240 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Paris, January 17 TASS -- As is reported by the France Presse News Agency, France has repeatedly emphasized that it is interested that concrete results should be attained at the Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva. In the opinion of the French Government, one should not develop new systems of armaments leading to destabilisation of the existing mainstays of the world.

SOVIET AGENTS REPORTEDLY INFILTRATE GREENHAM MARCHERS

LD202307 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 2218 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Soviet-trained agents have infiltrated the Greenham Common peace women since 1983, the authoritative magazine JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY claims tomorrow.

It reports that Soviet defectors say that between three and six trained agents from Warsaw Pact and West European countries, including the UK, have been present "at all times" since the deployment of U.S. land-based Tomahawk cruise missile in December 1983.

The defectors and informants disclosed the information in conversations outside, and after, official de-briefings, JANE'S says.

Although the agents are not now outside the perimeter wire, the Soviet Union still maintains a presence in the area which can be mobilised at short notice.

JANE'S informants say the agents come from a secret detachment of female Spetsnaz special forces.

The informants have not been identified because they fear their lives are at risk and some still have relatives in their country of origin.

They say there has been a regular rotation of agents to enable a large number to gain field experience.

The operation is controlled by the GRU, the main intelligence directorate of the Soviet General Staff.

They are attached to the Western Theatre Military Command, headed by Marshal of the Soviet Union, Nikolay Vasilyevich Ogarkov.

Report Termed 'Absurd'

LD211029 Moscow World Service in English 1000 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] In Britain women involved in the movement of protest against the deployment of American nuclear missiles in the country have expressed indignation over the reports that Soviet spies have allegedly infiltrated their ranks. The absurd charges were made by the military weekly JANE'S which claims that the antimissile movement was infiltrated by Soviet spies whose goal is to study the system of guarding American bases in Britain. Women involved in the movement declared that these provocative rumors were spread with the purpose of discrediting them in the eyes of the British public.

## LIBYAN OFFICIALS COMMENT ON SITUATION WITH U.S.

### Jallud Warning

LD171138 Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Tripoli, January 17 TASS -- "A U.S. armed attack on Libya will have the most serious consequences for the whole of the Mediterranean. The entire responsibility for the dangerous development of events is borne by the U.S. administration", 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, has stated here at a press conference for local and foreign journalists.

"No threats or economic sanctions," he pointed out, "will make us give up our principles and convictions, or abandon support for the peoples' liberation struggle, which they in Washington try to label 'terrorism'. A real policy of state terrorism is being pursued by the U.S. Administration itself. It is no secret that plans are being nurtured in the United States to do away physically with leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi".

"The U.S. espionage agency was directly involved in the training of terrorist groups and their infiltration into Libyan territory to commit acts of sabotage and murders. Plans which are being worked out by the United States for an armed aggression, and the 'crusade' which it has launched against the Libyan people are a flagrant violation of all international norms. All that is precisely a state-backed terrorism in practice", 'Abd al-Salam Jallud emphasized.

"Libya is a peaceful country which does not threaten anyone and does not send its navy to the shores of other states. It is faced with great tasks of peaceful construction for the accomplishment of which 15,000 million dollars are allocated under a new three-year development plan of the country. They in the United States hope in vain that the economic war which they have unleashed against Libya will undermine the country's economy", 'Abd al-Salam Jallud said in conclusion.

### AAPSO Representative

PM202001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Peresada report under the general headline: "United States Against Libya"]

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan -- The situation in the southern Mediterranean, where the United States is building up its military preparations, is becoming increasingly tense. Washington does not conceal the fact that the aim of these preparations is to inflict an armed strike on Libya. This is what (Abdel Mukhammed Vakhab az-Zintani), AAPSO vice president and Libyan Jamahiriyah representative, said in connection with the dangerous U.S. actions.

An armada of the U.S. 6th Fleet, including two aircraft carrier groups with dozens of combat aircraft and landing vessels with thousands of marines, is concentrated at the moment off the Libyan coast. U.S. aircraft are constantly probing our borders. All this indicates that the United States is actively preparing a large-scale aggressive onslaught against Libya.

We are not threatening anybody. The U.S. Administration's allegations that Libya is encouraging international terrorism are lies from start to finish. But if aggression is unleashed, we will, defend the motherland's sovereignty and its national interests with all determination.

Libya wants to live in peace with all peoples, including the American people, (Abdel Mukhammed Vakhab az-Zintani) pointed out.

## USSR-LEBANESE TALKS HELD IN MOSCOW

LD171255 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1215 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jan (TASS) -- Soviet-Lebanese political consultations took place at the USSR Foreign Ministry 14-15 January. During an exchange of views questions on bilateral relations, the situation in the Near East and also a few international problems were discussed.

Fu'ad al-Turk, general secretary of the Lebanese internal affairs ministry [as received], was received by Georgiy Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister.

## REPORTAGE ON CRISIS, EVENTS IN PDRY

### Clashes Reported

LD171334 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1940 GMT 16 Jan 86

[From "The World Today" Program presented by Seyful-Mulgukov]

[Text] This video report on events in South Yemen was received by us today through video channels from foreign TV companies. [video shows Aden harbor in flames] It has already been reported that a coup attempt was made in Aden on 13 January, as well as an attempt on the life of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly of the Democratic Yemen. According to reports by Arabic and other foreign papers, the Armed Forces which remained faithful to the government, have engaged in combat with opposition forces.

The armed clashes have become especially sustained in the area of the Aden port and in those districts of the city where government offices are situated. The Aden airport has been closed, the telephone and telex communications have been cut off between the South Yemen and the outside world. The Aden radio has also suspended its broadcasts. It is being reported that the South Yemen authorities created a special committee to rebuke the putschists, which passed death sentences on 'Ali (Antar), (Abdum Fatah Ismail) and to a number of other figures who came out against the present PDRY leadership.

Western media are spreading various sorts of insinuations concerning the events which are taking place in this Arabic country. The West aspires to make use of these events for new attacks against the anti-Imperialist Arab regimes, for sowing dissent in the patriotic forces. Libyan Radio has put out an appeal to South Yemenis to stop bloodshedding immediately. It has also reported that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi got in touch with 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the North Yemen, and suggested sending the Arab peace forces in order to assist normalization of the situation in South Yemen.

By all accounts, a tense situation still prevails in Aden. In the course of the armed clashes which took place over the last few days, the international airport has been damaged as well as a number of buildings. The opposing sides in a number of regions have failed to ensure adherence to the ceasefire which was agreed upon. South Yemen's communications with the outside world remains very unstable. Conflicting reports have been coming in concerning whereabouts of a number of members of the party and state leadership. At the same time, steps are being undertaken to stop the clashes, to normalize the situation and restore the work of the government offices in this country.

## Situation Described as 'Complex'

LD171421 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1345 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, 17 January (TASS) -- Diplomatic sources report from Aden that the situation in South Yemen still remains complex. Armed clashes between the opposing sides continue notwithstanding the calls for a cease-fire. According to reports from the PDRY capital, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the ruling Yemen Socialist Party formed on 16 January a special committee, the tasks of which include the elaboration and realization of the measures that are necessary to restore peace and security in the country.

## USSR Tries for Cease-Fire

JN171216 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1207 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] An urgent dispatch we just received from Moscow says that USSR authorities have contacted all the Western Embassies in Moscow to inform them that they are trying to attain a cease-fire between the disputing parties in Aden to facilitate the evacuation of USSR and other foreign nationals because the USSR Embassy hopes that it can facilitate the evacuation of all foreign nationals from Aden.

## USSR Requests Evacuation Aid

LD171640 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1222 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Cairo, Jan 17 (TANJUG) -- Soviet ambassador in Aden Viktor Perishkin has asked the Djiboutian government to help in evacuating Soviet citizens employed in the Yemen People's Democratic Republic, Djiboutian Foreign Minister Moumin Bahdon Farah said today. Farah said that the evacuation involved "several hundred persons." Farah said that the Soviet decision reflected a deterioration of the situation in South Yemen.

## Evacuation of Foreigners

LD181223 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Excerpt] According to news reports, ships belonging to a number of countries are involved in evacuating foreign citizens from South Yemen, where hostilities between the warring sides continue. Women and children are given priority in the evacuation. Efforts have been launched to reach a cease-fire agreement.

## Ligachev, Ponomarev Receive Officials

PM210935 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jan -- A meeting took place 17 January between K. Ligachev, member of Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and PDRY Premier H.A.B. Al-Attas, and Foreign Minister A. al-Dali, both members of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee Political Bureau.

Serious concern was expressed at the situation that has come about in Democratic Yemen, and also the conviction that no matter what the reasons for the interference clashes, an end must be put to them immediately. Those taking part in the meeting are united that a solution to the problems that have arisen should be sought by political means within the framework of the party and state institutions of Democratic Yemen. The continuation of the bloodshed would be of advantage only to the nemies of the South Yemen revolution, the forces of imperialism and reaction. The Soviet and outh Yemeni representatives stated that any attempts at external interference in the internal affairs of the PDRY are impermissible.

The need for the speediest normalization of the situation in the PDRY and for the restoration of the unity of the ranks of the Yemeni Socialist Party, which would correspond to the highest interests of theparty and the people, was stressed.

## PDRY Leaders' Appeal

LD181639 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jan 86

["Behind the Events" program]

[Text] Moscow Radio today received the text of the appeal addressed by Haydar abu Bakr al-Attas, memberof the Yemen Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee Political Bureau and prime minister of the PDRY, and by 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP and foreign minister of the PDRY, on behalf of the members of the YSR Central Committee and of the ministers of the PDRY now in the Soviet Union, the GDR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and the Syrian Arab Republic:

Here is the text of this appeal:

To the comrade members of the Political Bureau and the YSP Central Committee; to all the strugglers of the Yemen Socialist Party, to all the masses of our people and members of the armed forces, state security, the people's police, and the people's militia. We were grieved to hear the reports of the outbreak of armed battles between the comrades of the same struggle on 13 January 1986, and our grief grows greater when these battles continue with all their afflictions, pain, and tragic results and whose price is paid by our people alone, with no one gaining from it other than the forces of imperialism and reaction which are hostile to our revolution and to the socialist course chosen by our party and people.

At a time when we feel bitterness and pain the great hardships in the life of our people because of the continuation of the armed battles, we appeal to you all to put a final end to these battles and save the lives of children, women, men, and the aged from the risks of death and destruction, fright, hunger, thirst, and displacement and to restore the situation to normalcy in a spirity of loyalty to the principles of the party and to the interests of the nation and thepeople.

The spring of blood has now become a national demand. It is the duty of every struggler of the Yemen Socialist Party to achieve it immediately and without delay.

It is high time to stop the dialogue of rifles and guns and return to the values and ("ideals) of the party and the people, to continue the dialogue so that our party and our people will emerge from this crisis, and to mobilize all our material and human resources to build the homeland and the happiness of mankind.

We call upon all of you for immediate action to stop this bloodshed, to restore security and assurances to all, to restore electricity and water to the homes, and to return smiles to the faces of children. There is no doubt that we are called upon today, more than ever before, to preserve the (?progressive) regime built by our people with the blood of their martyrs and their great sacrifices, and to foil the plots of class enemies. We must rise to the level of national responsibility and realize that a long and difficult road awaits us to remove the consequences of these tragic events. This will increase the task of economic and social construction to which we must direct all our resources and abilities.

[Signed] Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-Attas, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; Dr. 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister. On behalf of members of the Central Committee and ministers now in the Soviet Union, the GDR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and Syria.

## Situation Remains 'Complicated'

LD191614 Moscow TASS in English 1454 GMT 19 Jan 86

["Events in South Yemen" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Kuwait, January 19 TASS -- According to information reaching here, the situation in Aden remains complicated and tense. Various areas of Aden are a scene of armed clashes. Large damage has been inflicted and there are considerable human casualties. Efforts to end bloodshed are continuing.

## Armed Clashes in Aden

LD201513 Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, January 20 TASS -- The situation in Aden and a number of other areas in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, where armed clashes between opposing groups continued in the past 24 hours, though on a smaller scale than before, remains complicated. Power and water supplies and telephone communications in the capital are disrupted and there is a shortage of food. There is considerable destruction in the city. Hundreds of foreign citizens were evacuated from Aden by sea in the past few days.

## Minister Rejects 'Interference'

LD201819 Moscow TASS in English 1719 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] [no dateline as received] 'Abdyal 'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Gemen Socialist Party, minister of foreign affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, sent on January 19, 1986 the following message to the secretary general of the League of Arab states Chedli Klibi:

"According to news agency reports, some Arab states have called for intervention to establish control over the events in Democratic Yemen. We hold that such calls are fraught with the danger of interference in the internal affairs of democratic Yemen and in the event of their implementation will create a big danger and will have grave consequences not only for democratic Yemen but also for all peoples and states of the region. The government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen categorically rejects any outside interference, whatever its origin, in the internal affairs of the PDRY.

"We ask you to make our view known without delay to their execellencies the ministers of foreign affairs of fraternal Arab states and also to the Palestinian Liberation Organisation. "Please accept my assurances of high respect".

PDRY Message to YAR

LD201825 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] [No dateline as received] Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, minister of foreign affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, sent on January 19, 1986 the following message to Colonel 'Ali 'Abadallah Salih, president of the Yemen Arab Republic, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, general secretary of the General People's Congress:

"We highly appreciate the call that you made yesterday for a ceasefire and the sending of Palestinian forces under white flags.

"While appreciating the sentiments and humane motives of your position we would like to note at the same time the danger of any whatsover outside interference in the internal affairs of South Yemen because any interference, whatever its outer shell and motivations, would only complicate the situation and have dangerous consequences for both Yemens and the region as a whole.

"Proceeding from this we request your urgent intervention so as to stop the entry of Palestinian or any other forces under any cover.

"In this connection we would like to confirm again that what is happening in South Yemen is its internal matter and that party and government bodies have taken the situation in the country under their control".

GOVOROV-LED DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO KUWAIT

LD171438 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Al-Kuwait, January 17 TASS -- A Soviet military delegation, led by Deputy Defence Minister of the USSR, Army General V.L. Govorov, has ended its visit to Kuwait.

The Soviet delegation was recieved by Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir Al-Sabah and Defence Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah.

## MILITARY COUP TOPPLES LESOTHO PRIME MINISTER

### TASS Cites Reuter

LD201222 Moscow TASS in English 1207 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] London, January 20 TASS -- A military coup took place in the Kingdom of Lesotho early today, the REUTER news agency has reported from Maseru.

The agency quoted the local radio as saying that the commander of the country's paramilitary force, General Justin Lekhanye, had taken power. He became head of a military council. The government of Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan was toppled.

King Moshoeshoe II would remain as head of state, said the broadcast by Radio Lesotho. The ministries will be temporarily headed by senior secretaries.

The radio broadcast pointed out that the actions by the army were taken "to install peace and national reconciliation". The radio urged the population to support the new authorities. Foreign companies, the broadcast said, may continue their normal activity.

The airport of Lesotho has been closed.

### Moscow TV

LD210023 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Video report by Yu. Ulyanov, from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The small African state of Lesotho was today at the center of attention of the world's press agencies. From the capital of Lesotho, Maseru, and from neighboring countries there are reports coming in about the military coup. The government of Leabua Jonathan has been overthrown and power has been seized by a military council headed by Major General Justin Lekhanye. The takeover of power took place after the RSA racist regime closed all the country's connections with the outside world. An economic blockade was announced, allegedly for harboring South African refugees. The Zimbabwean paper SUNDAY MAIL notes that the blockade of that state with a population of 1.5 million people is a clear example of blatant brigandage on the part of the apartheid regime.